'Page from the Past'
Only in the News-Ledger!
Page 8

An unusual rebuttal to the *West Sac Press*
Daryl Fisher's column, Page 2



Police Log
Page 9

USPS 388-320

THE NEWS-LEDGER

35 Cents

Entire Contents Copyright News-Ledger 2000

36th Year ◆ No. 46 | Serving the West Sacramento Region Since 1964 | Wednesday, July 5, 2000

Agency head optimistic on riverfront

By Steve Marschke
News-Ledger Editor

Money Store or no Money Store, West Sacramento's redevelopment agency chief is still bullish on the city's waterfront.

"One of the things really important for folks to know is that while we're all disappointed in the Money Store closing down, the building continues to be a strong symbol of the revitalization of the West Sacramento Waterfront," said agency head Val Toppenberg. "That building is not going anywhere."

When the lending company's parent company announced last week that it was shutting down the Money Store and laying off 1,600 people, the attention of the Sacramento region focused on the business's ziggurat-shaped, West Sacramento headquarters. But Toppenberg feels that the loss of the building's occupant won't affect the riverfront area's revitalization.

"With the improvements that have been made on the waterfront – including the Money Store building, the River Walk and the ballpark – as well as the master planning that has gone into the 'triangle' area, there has been created a tremendous interest in doing something over there at this time," he said. "Whether it's restaurants, offices or retail, there's interest in all of them."

Toppenberg said that although the next major project on the riverfront is not now underway, there are a number of things fermenting.

"My sense is it's unlikely we're going to see any new construction in the triangle area this year," he commented.

But he also said he believed that the Money Store building's owner would be successful in finding a new tenant as the lending company moves out.

"We know the state of California is short of space and needs to look at potential resources," said Toppenberg. "And we've heard a lot of rumors about people interested in being in that building. It's premature to speculate on who will occupy it, but our first choice is to have the building occupied by another organization of the magnitude of the Money Store."

Toppenberg said his department is putting together an analysis of the options it has to assist the owner with marketing the building, and plans to brief the city council sometime in August.

Homebuyers start moving into new homes

By Steve Marschke
News-Ledger Editor

The first homeowners in a major West Sacramento building spree have been moving in over the past ten days or so.

"I think we've moved in about nine (families)," reported city community development director Steve Patek on Monday. "About 31 houses have been approved for occupancy."

These 31 homes are part of the Beazer Homes subdivision in Southport's "Gateway" project, just east of Jefferson Blvd. and south of the barge canal. Homes there are selling from about the $140,000s.

Meanwhile, building is also occurring at the Bridgeway Island subdivision near Marshall Rd., and preparations are underway for even more homes at Newport Estates, north of Linden Rd. and close to the Sacramento River.

Patek still projects about 300 homes will be built and occupied this year in the city's Southport region.

"Gateway will probably account for about 100 of those, at least," he said. "The others would be in Bridgeway Island, with maybe some in Newport."

Many of the new houses are reportedly being sold to current residents of West Sacramento.

Gil and Tanya Lubetzky, moving into a new home on Fillmore Place in the Gateway subdivision, are not among those already-local homebuyers. The couple moved from Boston to be closer to family on the West Coast.

"We liked the 'newness' of the area, and it's very convenient to work," said Gil Lubetzky. "The area is expanding and seems to be an excellent investment."



ABOVE: Gil Lubetzky in front of his new home on Fillmore Place

RIGHT: New residents of the Beazer Homes subdivision, in a mix of finished and unfinished new houses. The project is part of 'Gateway.'

Photos by Barry Blacklaw



Plan outlined to slow traffic on Merkley Ave.

Chamber of Commerce looks at reducing lanes and including a center turn lane

By Steve Marschke
News-Ledger Editor

If you've ever jockeyed for lanes among speeding cars on Merkley Ave. in front of the post office or Raley's, you might appreciate what the West Sacramento Chamber of Commerce is trying to do.

"The chamber has been really concerned about the traffic on Merkley as far as the speed," reports executive director Don Hill. "Merkley is now actually more of a residential street than a business street, because of the Margaret McDowell (senior housing) center. People are crossing the street to go to Raley's or wherever, and it has become a problem with cars going 50 miles per hour there."

A subcommittee of the chamber charged with downtown issues and led by Hollywood Hardware's Jerry Smith has tackled the problem.

"We came up with a plan to slow traffic down without adding speed bumps, because the city absolutely would not go for speed bumps," said Hill. "Merkley would become two lanes, with a turn lane down the middle. The parking would be angled on the south side of Merkley (near the post office and hardware store) and with parallel parking on the north.

"We're also going to have little planters that jut out occasionally."

The planters may eventually have shrubs or trees in them, if it can be done without serious digging of the street. But mostly, said Hill, the project entails simple re-striping of the street between Jefferson Blvd. and Westacre Rd.

The plan is now being fine-tuned after it was discussed with the city's traffic department, and is receiving consensus support from local businesses and the post office, said Hill.

"No one seems to be opposed to it. It doesn't seem to be that big of a project, because we're talking about re-striping the street and putting curbing in for the planter effect."

The Merkley Ave. traffic-calming plan will be among several downtown-area issues discussed at the Chamber's next luncheon. Anyone interested in attending that luncheon at the Margaret McDowell complex may call 371-7042 for information. Cost is $15 in advance or $20 at the door and reservations are "strongly recommended," said Hill.

County budget includes $5.4 million for health facility

The Yolo County Board of Supervisors approved a $215 million budget for Fiscal Year 2000-2001. $5.4 million was included to build a health facility, which will be funded from tobacco settlement revenues.

"The $215 million budget this year is approximately an 11 percent increase from last year," said Vic Singh, County Administrative Officer, "and virtually all of this increase will come from state and federal funds."

The budget also gives most county employees a 3.5 percent salary increase.

One-third of the county budget, which equates to $68.4 million, makes up the Department of Employment and Social Services (DESS). The increase for DESS this year is to expand the welfare-to-work program. Singh said this would increase the DESS staff by 15 positions for a total of 359 employees.

The Board also approved $135,000 in supplemental request items that will be funded from the County's contingency fund. $25,000 of this will go to increase residential treatment for drug court, and over $100,000 will go to pay for clinicians to provide drug and alcohol treatment in the jail and juvenile hall.

'The $215 million budget this year is approximately an 11 percent increase from last year, and virtually all of this increase will come from state and federal funds'

VIC SINGH

In other Yolo County news, Assessor Dick Fisher announced the recently completed 2000 local assessment roll of 9,985,759,765 net taxable dollars, which reflects a 10.23 percent increase over 1999. This increase is the highest the county has witnessed since the 1980s and much of it can be attributed to a turnaround in the economy resulting in increases in values, new construction and property sales.

All areas of the county experienced increases in assessed values, including West Sacramento, which went up 9.53 percent, or 185,729,827 dollars.

Yolo courts add counselor

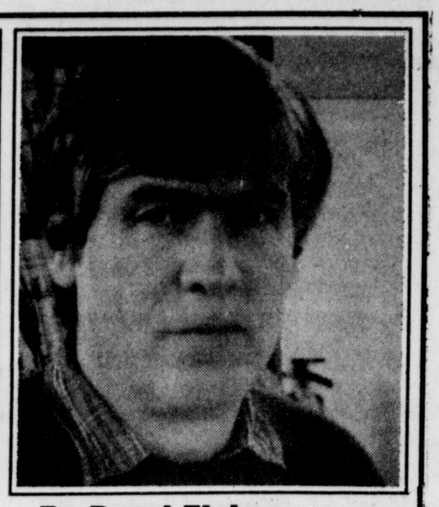
The Yolo Unified Family Court will add John Poon, Ph.D., as a therapist beginning this week. Poon's position was established by the Yolo Co. Dept. of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health, with grant funding from TANF/CALWorks. He will help address the counseling needs of "welfare to work" families involved in the court system.

Correction

In an essay in last week's issue, the date of the Gulf War was misprinted. The war occurred in 1990.

Did the 'Straight Shooter' blow away his foot?

My Back Pages



By Daryl Fisher

As most of you who read this column regularly know, I don't often use this space to get too political or confrontational. For the most part, the goal for the past decade or so has been to make you chuckle with me (or even at me), and to simply give you my own little take on some of the life experiences we all have in common. In fact, I can only really think of a handful of times when I have departed from that format, and that has usually just been to harpoon our beloved school board and its superintendent, Dr. Kelleher, who keeps waving as hard as he can for Mrs. Westvik, Mr. Farmer, Mrs. Eklund, Mrs. Flint, and Mr. Hocking to follow him over the cliff.

But this week, just as I was prepared to write yet another update on Li'l Suze, my daughter's crazy dog (the one who is undergoing extensive canine psychotherapy and taking doggie prozac) a friend of mine shoved a copy of the *West Sacramento Press* (the other weekly newspaper in town, which is based in Vallejo) under my nose and told me to read the Straight Shooter.

Now, for those of you blessed souls who only read the *News-Ledger*, the Straight Shooter is actually the new editor of the *Press*, a man I have never met and someone who up until now, I had actually considered quite an improvement on the past editor of that paper. He calls himself the Straight Shooter in a little column he writes on local subjects that interest him, and it more or less serves as the paper's editorial, since unlike the *News-Ledger*, the *Press* doesn't really have an opinion page.

And last week the Straight Shooter was angry indeed, telling his readers:

"For the second straight year in a row the West Sacramento City Council has gone through an elaborate pantomime, a charade if you will, for no good discernible reason. I'm writing of the city's annual request for bids from newspapers to print legal ads. This year, as last year, the city received one bid each from West Sacramento's two weekly newspapers. For the second year in a row city staff recommended the council accept the lower bid -- lower by more than $1 per column inch -- and for the second year in a row the city council chose to ignore the recommendation and award the bid to [both] papers."

Now, for those of you who don't spend a lot of time in the bowels of the newspaper business, what the Straight Shooter is squawking about is the yearly bid that both local newspapers submit to the City of West Sacramento in an effort to be awarded the city's legal notices, the publication of which can go a long way toward making small weekly newspapers financially healthy.

First, a little history. The going rate for legal ads in a California weekly newspaper is about $5 a column inch. To print them for much less than that makes it pretty hard to make a profit. Yet for years now the *Press* has been bidding in the ridiculous range of $1. The city staff, of course, has to recommend the lowest bidder, which is their job, but in the last two years, the City Council itself has become more involved in this issue, and has also started taking a more serious look at the *Press*'s circulation numbers (readership is the other criterion for being awarded the bid).

So the Straight Shooter doesn't really get around to addressing the real story in his column, which is whether the *Press* has been competing fairly and legally. Is the *Press* covering its costs at $1.25 per column inch, or is it just selling its product below value to damage the competition? What about their circulation claims? Last year, the *Press* claimed it had 2,800 local subscribers. The *News-Ledger* challenged those numbers and asked the city to audit both papers. This year, the *Press* dropped its claim to under 1,100. Did the *Press* submit a less-than-honest bid to the city last year? And if the 2,800 number was real, then how in the heck could the *Press* have lost almost two-thirds of those subscribers (by its own count) in less than 12 months? And why should the City print its public notices only in one newspaper (the *Press*) which now suddenly has fewer subscribers than the *News-Ledger* and is also apparently losing its subscribers in droves?

Smelling a rat (any paper which has lost that many subscribers in one year is either doing something terribly wrong or their numbers for the previous year were, how shall I say this, inflated), **all** five members of the City Council did the right thing this year and awarded the bid to both papers, knowing it would help ensure its public notices reach a wide audience and still keep their costs under the fair market value for legal ads.

Try as I may, it's really kind of hard to feel too sorry for the Straight Shooter and the newspaper he works for (I won't even get into the laughable 6,000 total circulation number they've used for years to convince local businesses to advertise in their paper). No, I think I'll just make the simple suggestion that maybe the Straight Shooter needs to rethink the title of that column of his a tad. I mean, a real Straight Shooter plays by the rules, always tells the truth, and demands the same from the people who employ him. Or maybe I'm thinking of the Lone Ranger? At any rate, I think I best be wrapping this up, cause the very last thing I wanna do is get a guy really mad at me who calls himself the Straight Shooter!

Holy Cross School 4th quarter honor list

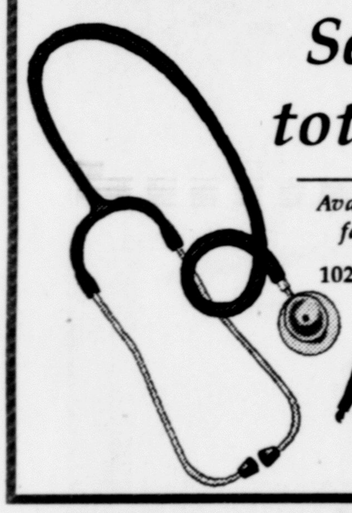
Principal's List: Rosa Verduzco (8th grade); Sugeili Godina (7th grade); Tiffany Garcia (6th grade); Ariel Gregersen & Hammad Khan (4th grade); Francisco Celiz (3rd grade).

High Honors: Daniel Valencia, Brittany Poncia, Alex Komarov, & Felicia Chavez (8th grade); Valerie Kuznetzoff & Brandon Ladd (7th grade); Jessica Boone, Chelsie Cisneros, Stephanie Elias, Andrew Lozano, Marisa Rosales & Katrina Suggett (6th grade); Ashley Aguirre, Diane Rodriguez & Manpreet Singh (5th grade); Megan Archuleta, Vanessa Lara & Anthony Tipton (4th grade).

Honors: Weleh Dennis (8th grade); Alfredo Castillo, Lily Franco, Chris Jorrin, Kayla Lebhart & Roger Pastrana (7th grade); Ariana Barrios, Alyssa Lopez, Rachel Medina & Anthony Molina (6th grade); Talina Melendez (5th grade); Jasmyn Boone, Keegan Burdette, Courtney Chairez, Trevor Haugen & Kelsie Shower (4th grade); Ariadna Castillo & Cecily Ortiz (3rd grade).

Merit: Allison Sheumaker, Anthony Fonseca & Melessa Jones (8th grade); Lupe Barajas, Daniel Celiz, Ray Lopez, Vince Moreno, Sergey Skachkov & Mallory Trojan (7th grade); Melissa White & Tiara Diaz (6th grade); Lucy Flores, Bobby Mata & Todd Robison (5th grade); Joseph Esparza, Joshua Foster, Anthony Garfio, Brandon Shinn & Mitchell Gamez (4th grade); Lorin Poncia, Nicholas Rhodes, Nico Molina & Zach Moreno (3rd grade).

Chandan Cheema, M.D.
Sandra Ashley, Nurse Practitioner



Serving the total patient.

Available to serve you and your family in West Sacramento.

1029 Jefferson Blvd. ■ W. Sacto
(916) 371-7734

MEMBER Sutter Independent Physicians Group, and most other insurance panels.

OBITUARIES

Fred Wilson Meischke

Fred Meischke was born in Omaha, Nebraska on December 31, 1917. He served in the United States Army in Alaska and also worked in the San Francisco Bay Shipyards as a welder and welding instructor, building warships from 1941-1945. He married his wife of 52 years, Ivah, in San Francisco on December 7, 1948 and went on to earn his Master's Degree in Education from Oregon State University. Fred and Ivah moved to West Sacramento over 40 years ago and Fred became a much respected Industrial Arts teacher at James Marshall High School.

Fred was a member of the Phi Delta Kappa, Kappa Delta Pi and Epsilon Pi Tau Honor and Industry Fraternities. He was also a long time member of the West Sacramento Democratic Club, a former Boy Scout leader, a past president of the WUSD Teacher's Association, and very active in the Golden Years Club of West Sacramento.

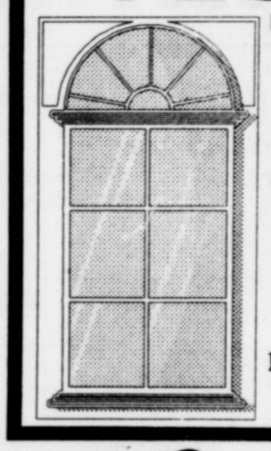
Fred retired from teaching in 1978 and traveled extensively with his wife, including trips to China and the Pacific Rim, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, Russia, Mexico, and Africa. His life was filled with love of family and friends, hard work and play and a constant quest for knowledge. He loved his country and loved to explore it. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew and loved him.



Fred Meischke

In addition to his wife, Ivah, Fred is survived by his daughter, Evonne Bowling (husband, Clint) of Arizona and five grandchildren, Rhiannon, Holly, Brian, Christine and Kevin. He was preceded in death by his son, Fred Karl Meischke.

Al's Glass



■ Residential & Commercial Glass
■ Mirrored Walls
■ Security Guards & Doors Installed
■ Insulated Windows Installed

Open 8-5 Monday-Friday
We accept Visa, Mastercard, American Express & Discover.
ARTHUR J. LINDSAY
Contractor's License #557740
1108 Sacramento Ave., West Sac.
371-6975

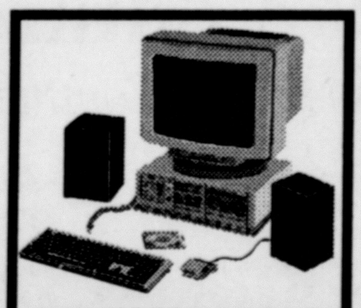


River Cities Funeral Chapel
371-4535

Even if you have pre-paid for a funeral plan elsewhere, you're not locked in.
We can arrange for the transfer of your plan.
Let us serve you locally, with experience, care and compassion.



Lic. #1082



Your Computer Accessories
371-6975
yourcomputeraccessories@teal.net

JACK'S TELEPHONE REPAIR SERVICE



Repair & Installation
Jack Silveira, 371-5950

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

15th Street Market & Deli

Janice Ballard-Martin
Proprietor



● Full-service deli with sandwiches, tri-tip roasts, rotisserie chicken, ribs, and Billy Bones BBQ sauce
● Great selection of meats
● Butcher on duty 5-9 p.m. M-F, 10-3 weekends
● Fresh produce!
● Crystal ice cream & milk!
● Reasonable prices!
● Quick service for the shopper in a hurry!



109 15th St., between Jefferson & Park
371-9383

The News-Ledger

The News-Ledger was founded August 14, 1964. It is the successor to the *Weekly Reader*, founded by Julius A. Feher in April, 1938, and incorporates the *West Sacramento News*, founded by Julius A. Feher in August, 1942.

The News-Ledger is a weekly newspaper published every Wednesday. It provides coverage by mail and other distribution to the city of West Sacramento, including the communities of West Sacramento, Bryte, Broderick and Southport.

The News-Ledger is a newspaper of general circulation by Yolo County Superior Court decrees No. 21893, dated June 1, 1967, and No. 29812, dated June 4, 1973.

Michael P. Garten, Publisher
Successor to Julius A. Feher, 1988
Steven K. Marschke, Editor
Daryl Fisher, Features Editor
Richard Novoa, Sports Correspondent
Daryl Fisher, Advertising Director

Second Class Mail privileges authorized May 10, 1965 at the West Sacramento Post Office. Second Class Mail paid at West Sacramento, CA 95691.

Price per copy: 35 cents.

Subscription price: $20.00 per year within Yolo County (including West Sacramento); $25.00 per year elsewhere in the United States. Delivery by mail. Call (916) 371-8030.

News submissions: The *News-Ledger* welcomes information on local news and events. Please submit written news items to the below address by mail or in person, or through the office mail slot. News deadline is Friday before publication. Please include your name for attribution and your phone number in case we have any questions.

Opinion submissions: Letters to the Editor on topics of local interest are welcome. They must be signed, original, and must include the author's telephone number and address for verification. Letters should be brief and may be edited for length or objectionable or libelous content. Deadline is Friday before publication, and may be mailed or dropped off at the *News-Ledger* office.

Advertising: The deadline for classified advertisements is Monday at 5 p.m., and ads should be prepaid. An ad of up to 25 words costs $3.50, plus 10 cents for each additional word, per publication. Please mail ad and payment to the address below, or drop it off in the *News-Ledger* office or through the office mail slot.

Deadline for all other advertising is 5 p.m. on Friday. Please call 371-8030 for information on display advertising and advertising inserts.

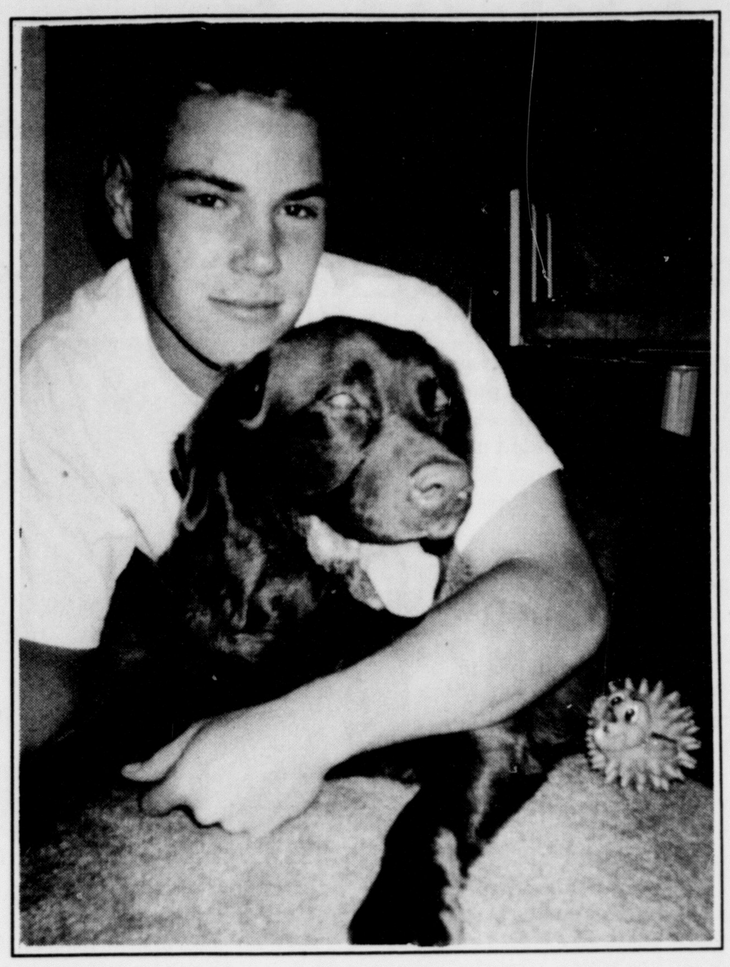
Entire contents protected under federal copyright law 2000. No reproduction of any portion of this newspaper may be made without the written permission of the publisher.

The News-Ledger
P.O. Box 463,
816 Westacre Rd.
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916) 371-8030

Guest Column:

Why own a dog?

By Jeanette Keith
***News-Ledger* correspondent**



'Hershey' with Shane Keith

Shortly after meeting my friend Mitch, he learned I had a dog and to my surprise he asked, "Why would you own a dog? You know you are going to outlive it. Why would you put yourself through that? There is enough hurt in a life time without adding the death of a dog."

I later learned that Mitch had had a dog as a child. The dog's name was Jingles and it was obvious Mitch had never gotten over the loss of his pet.

Why own a dog? That is just too easy to explain.

For the past seven years, anyone who has entered our house has been greeted by a big brown dog with floppy ears and a "I'm so happy to see you!" look in his eyes. Hershey, our 71 pound chocolate labrador honestly believes he has a guest. Sit down and his head is placed in your lap, his left paw rests upon your knee and big adoring eyes with raised brows gaze up at you. A little drool on your pant leg or skirt is an added bonus of his affection.

When Hershey entered our lives, he weighed only five pounds and had the bluest eyes I'd ever seen. A gift to my then ten-year-old son, Shane, Hershey entered our home and immediately took over our hearts. We soon learned that labradors are the most people friendly breed. Demanding affection, they need to be physically close to the people around them.

Our old white cat was bigger than Hershey when he arrived. The cat, with one swipe of his paw, would send Hershey rolling across the room every time he got too close. As time went on, though, a bond formed between the two animals. Three years later, the old white cat died during the night curled up against Hershey's warm belly. We got him two more cats.

Hershey appointed himself Shane's protector. When Shane was little and playing in the front yard, anyone could enter our yard as long as I was in the house. If I was not at home, friends and neighbors were stopped by a threatening growl. Though we knew he was bluffing, the intruder wasn't quite so sure.

A self-appointed night time sentry, Hershey pauses a moment at each of our bedroom doors. Only after he is assured that all four of us are safely tucked in does he settle down near the front door for the night.

I get up in the morning and put Hershey outside. Gary, my older son, gets up and lets him in. Before I leave for work, I put him back outside. Shane gets up and lets him in. Year around, despite my protests and threats, the sliding door to the back yard is left open so Hershey can wander in and out all day. The dog house on my patio has never been used. The swimming pool filter is often clogged with hair because the boys invite Hershey in for a swim (he has never entered the pool uninvited). "He needs to cool off," is their explanation. The bread drawer is always empty because Hershey's favorite snack is bread. A left over steak has never made it to the refrigerator.

The cat, with one swipe of his paw, would send Hershey rolling across the room every time he got too close. As time went on, though, a bond formed between the two animals. Three years later, the old white cat died during the night curled up against Hershey's warm belly.

If any of us are sad, Hershey seems to sense we need comfort and he remains close, his head in our lap and his left paw on our knee. If we are sick, he rests at our feet. He makes us laugh when he tries to catch a fly buzzing around his head and teases us with his favorite squeaky ball. He has us rushing to the veternarian when he is sick or injured and celebrating when he is recovered.

Why would I want to own a dog? The truth is, I really don't. Hershey Kisses Keith, a chocolate labrador, is the one who owns me, and the hearts of the four humans and two cats who live in his home.

(Feature Editor's note: Hershey, who is seven years old, was recently diagnosed with a particularly aggressive form of cancer and only has weeks to live. He is currently resting comfortably at home with his family.)

River Cats add two new pitchers

News from the River Cats

The Sacramento River Cats announced that left-handed pitcher Rich Sauveur and right-handed pitcher Tim Manwiller will be added to the club's active roster. Right-handed pitcher Rich DeLucia has been placed on the River Cat's 7-day disable list with soreness in his right elbow.

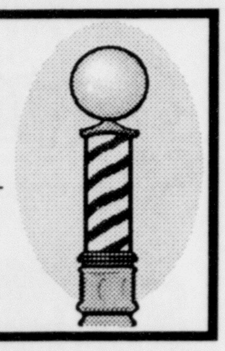
Sauveur, 36, will join the team from Oakland, where he went 0-0 with a 4.35 ERA in 10 relief appearances. In 605 career minor league games over 18 professional seasons, he has a 88-74 record with a 2.84 ERA.

Manwiller, 25, was 4-4 with a 4.00 ERA in 16 games (14 as a starting pitcher) with Midland (Double-A). He was the A's 30th-round pick in the 1997 draft out of Radford University.

DeLucia, 34, is 3-1 with a 3.96 ERA in 10 games with the River Cats. In 320 major league games, including stints with the San Francisco Giants, St.Louis Cardinals, Anaheim Angels, and Cleveland Indians, he has a 38-51 record with a 4.62 ERA.


Newly Renovated!
CAPITOL BOWL
■ Pool tables
■ Video arcade
■ 'All You Can Bowl', only $15 per lane: up to 3 hours M-F & up to 2 hours Sat-Sun. Up to six bowlers per lane!
900 West Capitol Ave., West Sacramento ■ 371-5631

Complete Vision Care for Children & Adults
Chang D. Chan., O.D.
May C. Chan, O.D.
CONTACT LENSES - all types.
EYEGLASSES - designer and fashion, "no-line" bifocals, sunglasses, occupational and sport glasses.
PRESCRIPTIONS FILLED.
LOW VISION AIDS.
Vision Insurance Plans, MediCal and Medicare welcome.
1029 Jefferson Blvd., Suite B
West Sacramento
371-3421

Havey's Barber Shop

William 'Bill' Havey, Jr.
849 Jefferson Blvd., Suite 103
West Sacramento ● 371-4921
Next door to 'La Bou'

WHAT IS YOUR HOME WORTH?
Get a Free Home Evaluation!
In these changing times, you need to know what your home is worth!
Call today, for a professional market evaluation of your home at no obligation and no cost!
Learn what can make your home worth more money in this real estate market!
PARKSIDE Property & KANE Realty -- 373-9500

Five return as champions from Taekwondo association tournament

From Deguzman's Martial Arts

West Sacramento's Deguzman's Martial Arts Academy sent a coalition of black belts to Little Rock, Arkansas, to compete in the American Taekwondo Association World Championships on June 17.

Five of the eight took first place honors in their respective divisions and were named A.T.A. World Champions.

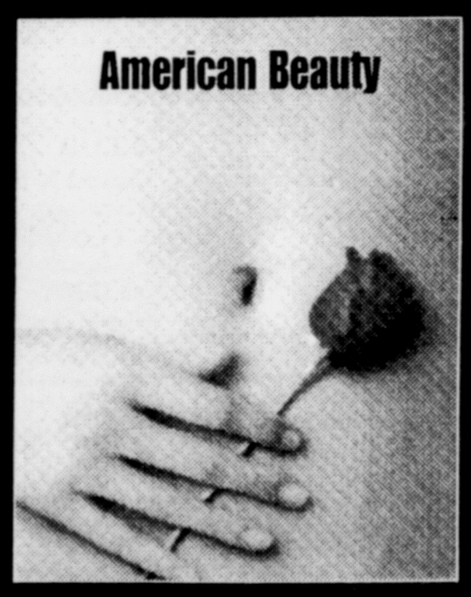
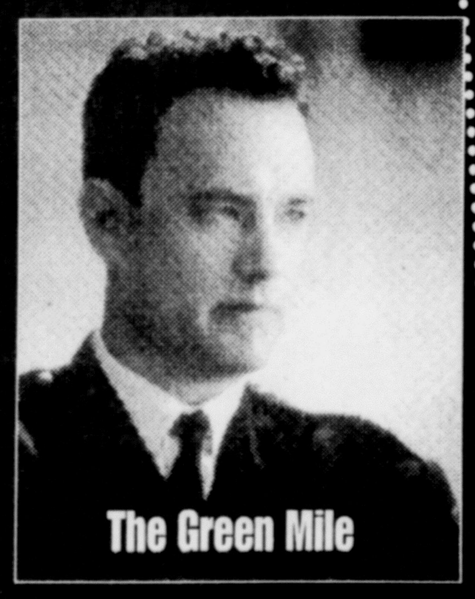
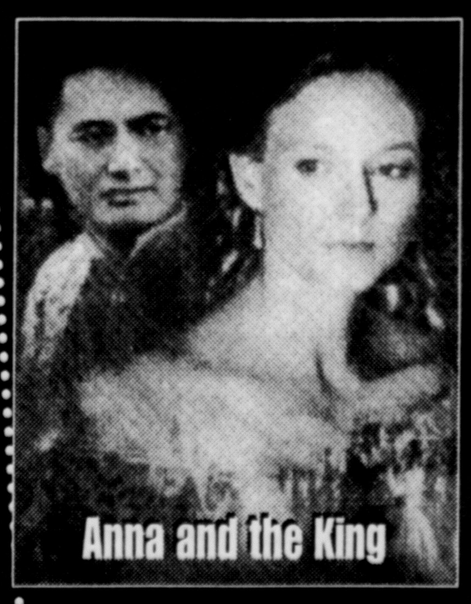
Included among the winners were Nick Deguzman, owner and operator of the school, who won his third World Champion title in four years, winning the men's third degree age 30-39 forms competition; assistant instructor Reggie Williams, winning the men's second degree age 25-29 sparring competition and taking second in the forms competition; Jerrico Crisologo, Sr., winning the men's first degree age 35-39 forms competition; Lloyd Carter, winning the boys' first degree age 9-10- sparring competition; and Jerrico Crisologo Jr., winning the boys' first degree age 9-10 forms competition.

The other three students from the school took third place honors.

For information on the school, call 375-0532.

Sports Quiz
by Chris Richcreek

1. True or false: The last two Triple Crown winners in baseball were in back-to-back seasons.
2. Entering 2000, which was the last baseball team to win 16 games in a row?
3. In the recent NFL Draft, what position had the most players picked?
4. Who was the first college basketball player of the year to later be named the NBA's Most Valuable Player?
5. Who was the first coach to beat a Scotty Bowman-coached team in consecutive seasons in the playoffs?
6. Who has had the longest reign as world heavyweight boxing champion?
7. Who was the first pro bowler to earn $100,000 in a single season?

July Pay-Per-View movies on Charter iN Demand!

American Beauty

The Green Mile
Charter iNDEMAND
Easy toll-free ordering • Check schedules for showtimes
1-800-885-7781

Anna and the King

World is Not Enough

Fight Club
Charter COMMUNICATIONS
A Wired World Company
To order Charter Cable Television, call toll-free 1-888-997-6642
www.chartercom.com • www.indemand.com
WSAC6.00CMG


Official products of the NFL, MLB & NBA
♦♦♦
Outfitter for Little League Athletes
CRAZYHORSE SPORTS & MEMORABILIA
Bill Steffey, Sr., Owner
1001 Jefferson Blvd., Suite 500, West Sacramento
(Jefferson Square near Round Table Pizza)
(916) 372-6777

Yolobus To Sac. Airport
371-2877

MARKETPLACE

Whitey's Jolly Kone
● Tacos ● Burgers ● Shakes
GREAT FOOD.
FRIENDLY FOLKS.
A West Sacramento Tradition!
1300 Jefferson Blvd.
371-3605

HOLLYWOOD HARDWARE
1948 50 years 1998
"If you need it, we've got it!"
■ Local ■ Friendly
■ Knowledgeable
1551 Merkley Ave., W. Sacramento
(next to post office)
(916) 371-2542

GLASS WEST
SAME DAY SERVICE
MOBILE GLASS & SCREEN
DAVID BLAKE, OWNER
816 WESTACRE RD. #2
WEST SAC., CA 95691
(916) 372-9391

Hallmark GOLD CROWN
GORMAN'S
MICHAEL & DEE GORMAN
845 Jefferson Blvd.
West Sacramento CA 95691
(916) 371-5800, fax 371-0401
www.gormansonline.com

FOREVER YOURS
Fresh Flowers for All Occasions
Specializing in Wedding Bouquet Preservation
(916) 372-2271 ■ Fax (916) 372-6115
1001 Jefferson Blvd., Suite 600
West Sacramento, CA 95691
www.foreveryourz.com

Advanced Auto Center
Quality Work ■ Honest Estimates
West Sacto's only AAA-approved auto repair!
COUPON
AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE
Pressure Leak Check. Freon Extra. (Evacuation & recharge $20.) Expires 7/31/2000
$34.98 Reg. $39.98
COUPON
BRAKE SPECIAL MOST VEHICLES
We use Raybestos. Install premium pads or linings. Resurface drums or rotors. Free bearing repack. 4WD & semi-metallic extra. Exp. 7/31/2000
$59.98 Reg. $79.98
TRY US! We also do:
■ 30,000 mile warranty service
■ Tune-ups ■ Timing belts
■ Radiator power flush ■ Oil leaks
■ Alternators, starters & water pumps
■ Transmission service
■ Suspension/struts/shocks ■ More!
COUPON
LUBE, OIL & FILTER
14-Point safety inspection. Oil change to 5 qts. any weight. Install new filter. Lube chassis (if applic). Most vehicles. We carry most brands of motor oil. Expires 7/31/2000
$19.98 Reg. $21.98
373-1772 ■ 1641 Merkley Ave. ■ Visa/MC ■ M-F 7:30-5:30, Sat. 7:30-3:00

Advertisers' Corner:

R.C. Funeral Chapel: for times of need

(Note: Below is the latest in a series of *News-Ledger* profiles of our local advertisers. Enjoy!)

By Daryl Fisher
Features Editor

Jon Daniel, who for more than a decade has been the funeral director of West Sacramento's River Cities Funeral Chapel, was born in South Dakota and spent his formative years in the upper Midwest. His father owned a number of funeral homes in the Dakotas and Jon is a fourth generation funeral director.

"When I was young," recalled Jon, "my job in the family business was to dig the graves. So I guess you can say I started from the very bottom, with a pick and shovel."

Jon, who smiles and laughs easily, is comfortable with his chosen profession, but he is also aware that being a funeral director is a job that not everyone can do.

"To begin with," explained Jon, "becoming a funeral director requires quite a bit of intensive schooling, and then that is followed by a two-year apprenticeship. I was fortunate to be able to go to San Francisco's College of Mortuary Science, which is one of the best mortuary schools in the nation. I took classes in biology, micro-biology, chemistry, pathology, anatomy, psychology and accounting. Then you have to take state and national boards, which are very difficult to pass. Only about one in ten who start the whole process actually complete it.

Jon moved to West Sacramento in the 1970s and immediately fell in love with the area.

"West Sacramento is right in the middle of all the things I like to do," said Jon. "The mountains and the ocean are only an hour or two away, and West Sacramento itself has always reminded me of the small Dakota and Minnesota towns I grew up in."

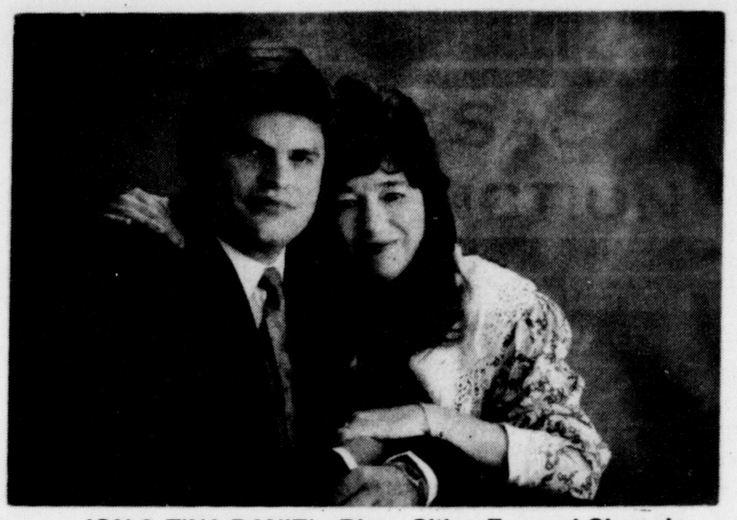
The 1980s started off especially well for Jon because in 1981 he met his wife, Tina.

"We met at a dance in Old Sacramento," remembered Jon. "I liked her right away and I definitely didn't want her to run out the door like other girls had done in the past when I told them I was an embalmer. So, since I have always been in love with the ocean, I decided to tell her a little white lie -- that I was an oceanographer -- and thankfully that worked long enough for us to get to know each other better. To tell you the truth, I never went on another date after I met Tina."

In 1985 Jon and Tina gathered up all the money they had in the world, borrowed a bunch more, and purchased River Cities Funeral Chapel.

"We even had to borrow $100 so we could have a checking account," said Jon, "but with Tina's help, everything worked out just like we had hoped it would. She does most of the book work, which is considerable, and I do just about everything else, and both of us are more or less on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We also have a wonderful new employee, Cristina Rubalcava, who I think has a bright future in this business and who has been a big help to us with our Spanish speaking customers."

Over the years, Jon has come to realize the important contribution a funeral home director can make to a small community like West Sacramento.



JON & TINA DANIEL, River Cities Funeral Chapel

"I take my job very seriously," said Jon. "Not only do I strive to be professional and competent in what I do, but I also try very hard to be as sensitive as I can to the needs of the people I serve. Patience, empathy, and concern are not just words to me -- they're part of my everyday life."

Jon and Tina have two children, Jon Roger, a junior at River City High School who will be playing on the varsity basketball and golf teams, and Cecily, who will be starting 8th grade at Golden State Middle School and is described by her loving father as, "My 13-year-old princess who is going on 20."

"This is a great place to raise a family," said Jon, "and after living here for more than two decades, I consider myself a West Sacramento lifer. Sometimes I wish I could spend more time with my family, but that's not always possible. The funeral home business can be very demanding, and it certainly isn't for everyone, and quite honestly, there's parts of it a person never really gets used to, but it's also very rewarding to be in a position where I can help people when they need it the most."

Jon tries not to get too emotionally involved in his work but there are times when that is simply not possible.

"It's especially difficult when children are involved," explained Jon, "or when a mother or father pass away much too young, but I just try to do my best, and the families always seem to sense that. I've also really become a believer in encouraging everyone to pre-plan their funeral arrangements as much as possible. We have a number of options here at River Cities to help people in that area, and it can be a real blessing to families in their time of need. I've sat across the table from too many people who were totally unprepared for the loss of a loved one, and all of us here at the funeral home want to do everything we can to help lesson that pain. There are a lot of wonderful people in this little town of ours, and I'm very proud to work and live here."

River Cities Funeral Chapel is located at 910 Soule Street in West Sacramento and Jon can be reached, day or night, by calling 371-4535.

CLUB PHEASANT
Restaurant & Cocktail Lounge
Italian Dinners & Lunches
- Family Owned Since 1935 -
Closed Mondays
Phone (916) 371-9530
Fax (916) 371-9553
Two miles south of Pioneer Memorial Bridge (US 50) on Jefferson Blvd. ■ West Sacramento, California

Jefferson Video
-Your local video store-
1001 Jefferson Blvd.
West Sacramento
372-5880
We have all the new movies!

■ QUALITY WORK
■ LOCAL
■ EXPERIENCED
■ KNOWLEDGEABLE
■ RELIABLE
■ REASONABLE
WEST SAC CONSTRUCTION
NEW CONSTRUCTION & REMODELING
CHRIS MERICA, CONTRACTOR'S LIC. # 770069
(916) 373-9817

Rick's Chevron
'Gasoline & so much more!'
1015 Jefferson Blvd.
West Sacramento ■ 371-7188
Home of the Touchless Car Wash!

Don's Bike & Repair Shop
Specializing in Tune-Ups & Repairs
■ Mountain Bikes ■ Adult 3-Wheelers
■ BMX ■ 10-Speeds
11th & Jefferson ■ W. Sacramento
Don Rebrovich, Owner ■ (916) 371-1736

Century 21
Koerwitz Realty
Quality and Service Award Office, 1998
910 Jefferson Blvd., West Sacramento
Business (916) 371-0637
FAX (916) 371-0714 ■ Voice Mail (916) 806-4323
E-mail C21koerwit@aol.com
Each office Independently Owned and Operated
Jim L. Koerwitz
REALTOR

Law Offices of
GUY G. GIBSON, JR.
A Professional Corporation
GUY G. GIBSON, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW
ESTATE PLANNING
MEDI-CAL PLANNING
1540 Jefferson Blvd.
W. Sacramento CA 95691
(916) 371-5780 ■ Fax 371-1624
404 Natoma Street
Folsom, CA 95630
(916) 985-3466 ■ Fax 985-3609

MARKETPLACE

Local Classified Advertising

SERVICES

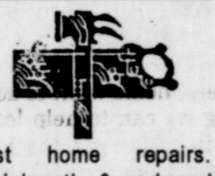
SMALL JOBS ONLY LANDSCAPE: 15 years experience, residential specialist, licensed State Contractor #535496, ISA Arborist. Removals - shrubs, trees, stumps, annoying limbs cut. Detach, overseed, aerate, roof drains cleared, tilling, high weeds. Emergency assistance. Insured. 371-9273. NO MOWING.
A-2000-51

PHOENIX PAINTING COMPANY: In business since 1981, doing residential and commercial painting. FREE ESTIMATES. Bonded & insured. License No. 415670. Experienced in special coatings. Senior discount. Phone (916) 372-2941.
PPC-6tfn

WEST SAC PLUMBING: 20% OFF WITH THIS AD! Complete plumbing service. Srs. appreciated. Serving all of Sacto 35 years. No. 354941. Phone 371-2714.
99-49

HANDYMAN

THERE'S NO JOB around the house or yard I can't do. Hard working, reliable, references upon request. Working in West Sac. Call Ed, (707) 334-3685 or (707) 448-3685.
45tfn



Most home repairs. Chainlength & redwood fence. Hauling to the dump, roof patch & metal rubberized roof coating. Most any repairs around your home. Retirement discount. Free estimate. Call Dave, 373-0637 lic. no. 6181.
DS-12/99

ROOFING



Roof repair, shingle, flat, mobile home, metal storage buildings, rubberized coating, rain gutters, retirement discount, free estimate. Call Dave, 373-0637, Lic. #6181.
ds15-12/99

LANDSCAPE

FIVE STAR LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE. Weekly, biweekly, and one-time cleanup services. Call Mark Cooper for a free estimate. (916) 375-2664.
FS-aug15

CLEANING

NITTY GRITTY CLEANING SERVICE: weekly, biweekly, monthly, one-time cleanups. Lic. & bonded. Call Kelly, 371-2061.
46

BARBER & STYLING

West Capitol Barber Shop: Men's & ladies' cuts, senior discount on cuts. Children always welcome! Tues-Sat, 9am-6pm. Ask for Bill the Barber. 1536 West Capitol Ave., 371-4328.
wcb-44tfn

HEY EVERYONE! Stella is not moving. Same number, 372-2769. Also - ATENCION - SE HABLA ESPANOL - Enriqueta, 375-1037.
46

FOSTER HOMES

FOSTER FAMILES NEEDED! Agape Villages is currently looking for loving familes. Singles welcomed. Be a blessing to a child. Monthly $700 plus. (800) 566-2225.
47

HOMES FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 1524 Laurel Lane, all new, updated 3 bed, 1 full bath home! Newer roof, large family room w/brick fireplace & modern kitchen, all close to shopping! For more information on this home, please call our broker, John Kane, 373-5300.
jk-46tfn

Southport Splendor! Newer Windsor Meadows Home with NO MELLO ROOS BONDS! 2825 Airons Court. 3 bd, 2 full ba., quiet cul-de-sac lot, landscaped yards - rear yard & patio just right for entertaining! Home has vaulted ceilings in family rm, kitchen, living rm & dining rm! A large 2-car garage is icing on the cake! Call our broker, John Kane, at 373-5300 for more information on our splendid home!
jk46tfn

PEAK OF PERFECTION! This freshly remodeled 3 bdrm home has it all! Central heat & air, dual pane windows, park-like backyard, way too many features to list. Move in! $129,900. 1509 Laurel Ln. Call Jeff Puliz, agent, at 373-9600 for more information.
46tfn

LOCK THE DOOR AGAINST HIGH RENT! 2 bedrm, 1 bath, over 800 sq ft. in estabished state streets area! Close to parks & public transportation! Make us an offer TODAY! ASKING ONLY $99,900! Call JEFF PULIZ, agent, 373-9600.
3ttfn

REMARKABLY MAGNIFICENT, MASSIVE 2 bed home! This home has it all! Large 30 ft. family room w/ freestanding fireplace, private formal living room w/brick fireplace, modern kitchen, updated bathroom, indoor laundry room, central heat/air, private garden in rear yard, spa, 1 car garage, low maintenance home! 809 Julian Dr., $99,000 Call our broker, John Kane, at 373-5300 today to view our magnificent home!
jk43tfn

A MOST TEMPTING BUY! 2 bed, 1 bath, state street bungalow! New windows & remodeled bath! Act quick on this genuine bargain! $102,900, 1713 Alabama Ave. Call JEFF PULIZ, agent, 373-9600.
jp-39tfn

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

STUDIOS AVAILABLE. Free basic cable. $490-510. Call 916-372-2888.
rcc-39tfn

INCOME PROPERTY

Best fourplex, newer 4-2 bedroom, 1 bath units, income $1,770/month. Great tenants! Only $165,000. Call John Kane, Brk., at 373-5300 for more information.
jk-37tfn

LAND FOR SALE

LOTS FOR SALE BY OWNER: Build your custom home:
1 acre w/sewer, water, allows 2 homes, and:
1.44 acres on Allan Ave., and:
2 acres on Davis Rd.
Call 372-2195, Lou.
A-35tfn

0.8 acre, on Soule St. Zoned C-2 commercial. Owner financing available. Freeway ramp & visibility. $125,000. John Kane, brk., 373-5300.
jk28tfn

LAND FOR SALE: Country living! 2 each 5 acre parcels located on Gregory Rd., asking $140,000 parcel. RIVER ACCESS: 1 acre on Sacramento River, possible boat dock! Asking $38,500. For more information on these or other homes for sale in West Sacramento please call JEFF PULIZ, agent, 373-9600.
jk-6tfn

Large Commercial Lot for Sale: 1.7+ acres, $345,000. Owner financing available! Located in Southport on Jefferson Blvd. Call for details! JOHN KANE, brk, 373-5300.
JK-47tfn

AUTOS

FOR SALE: 1993 Ford T-Bird, alarm, sunroof, runs great, $6500 OBO. 372-2769 or 375-0276.
46

MISC. FOR SALE

Soloflex Exerciser, 5 yrs old. $1500 new. Asking $800 OBO. 372-9456.
F-41tfn

Air Conditioner, 220 volts, 18,000 BTU, window or wall mount, $250. Ed, (707) 448-3685
45tfned

HELP WANTED

Police Officer (Entry & Lateral) for City of West Sacramento. $3272-3994/mo + exclnt bnfts. For City applic. & job flyer, send SASE, indicating position to: HR, PO Bx 966, W. Sacto., CA 95691 (www.ci.west-sacramento.ca.us) FFD: 5pm, 08/07/2000. NO POSTMARKS
ws46

Student Intern for City of West Sacramento Redevelopment Agency. $9.00/hr. Jr-Graduate level in Pub Admin, Land Use Planning, Business, Economics, or Real Estate. For complete info, see job flyer. To obtain, send SASE, indicating position, to HR, PO Bx 966, W. Sacto., CA 95691. Open til filled.
ws46

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Job Search Techniques & Employment Guidance
We can help you FREE! Looking for the perfect job or career! We will assist you with: Assessing your many talents and options; applications; resumes; references; interview techniques; cover letters; letters of recommendation; thank you notes; job retention; and employer/employee matches. Call us!
The One-Stop Career Center System
(Formerly Community Partnership Agency)
HOT LINE
(916) 375-6248

Got your own copy of the News-Ledger?

Just call 371-8030 to start!

Jordan's Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

All Work Guaranteed!

■ Honest ■ Reliable ■ Reasonable
■ Excellent Local Reputation
■ Free Estimate Over the Phone!
■ Truckmount or Portable Units
John Jordan, Owner

371-1678

Located at the corner of Jefferson Blvd. & Drever St. ■ Licensed & Insured

State-wide classified ad network

Be wary of out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send any money for fees or services. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates

APPLIANCE

WANT TO BUY or sell a dishwasher, a washer, a dryer, an oven, another appliance...? Check out www.ebay.com/local (CAL*SCAN)

AUTOMOTIVE

CHARITY CARS - Donate your vehicle, tax deductible, free towing. We provide vehicles to needy families. As seen on Oprah and People Magazine! 1-800-442-4451, www.charitycars.org (CAL*SCAN)

BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS

GOV'T POSTAL JOBS to $18.35/hr. Benefits & Pension. For application and exam information call:1-888-726-9083 Ext. 1000. 7am-8pm CST. (CAL*SCAN)

POSTAL JOBS $48,323.00 yr. Now hiring - No experience- Paid training - great benefits. Call for lists, 7 days. 800-429-3660 ext. J100. (CAL*SCAN)

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

ADVERTISE STATEWIDE! Expand your horizons. $450 for 25-words, circulation 3 million, 214 California newspapers. Inexpensive national classified/display options available. CALSCAN (916)288-6010; (916)288-6019 www.cal-scan.com (CAL*SCAN)

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

HERSHEY'S PRE-SECURED ROUTES. Available in limited areas! Min. invest. under $5K. Potential earnings over $95K one year. 1-888-745-5552 24 hrs. (CAL*SCAN)

EMP. PREP INSTRUCTION

TRUCK/BUS DRIVING Join our training program! Be job ready in three weeks. Includes food, lodging, transportation, training, placement, DMV. Call (877) 391-3030 toll free. (CAL*SCAN)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

AVON. Declare your independence! Control your own income. Set your own schedule. As an AVON representative YOU call the shots. Let's talk. (888)942-4053. (CAL*SCAN)

FINANCIAL SERVICES

CHOKING ON DEBT? Stop harassment/high monthly payments. Proven program slashes bills in half. No credit check. Save thousands!! Call free quote today!! 1-877-479-4479 ext. 112. First Mutual Financial. (CAL*SCAN)

CREDIT CARD DEBT? Avoid bankruptcy. *Stop collection calls. *Cut finance charges. *Cut payments up to 50%. Debt consolidation. Fast Approval! No credit check. (800)270-9894. (CAL*SCAN)

DEBT CONSOLIDATION! Cut your monthly payments 30-60%. Bad credit okay. Same day approval. 1-877-769-8168 X100 or visit our website @ www.centurydebt.com (CAL*SCAN)

$$$NEED A LOAN? Consolidate debts! Same day approval. Cut payments up to 50%!! No application fees!! 1-800-863-9006 ext. 949. www.help-pay-bills.com (CAL*SCAN)

FURNITURE

WANT TO BUY or sell a sofa, a table, a chair, a desk, or other furniture...? Check out www.ebay.com/local (CAL*SCAN)

HELP WANTED

ASSEMBLY AT HOME Arts, crafts, jewelry. Also electronics, sewing, typing in your spare time. Great pay. No experience. No Fee. Will train. Call 800-795-0380 ext.2 (24/hrs.) (CAL*SCAN)

FIREFIGHTER Learn firefighting skills. Paid training and relocation w/exc. benefit pkg. H.S. Grads ages 17-34. Call 1-800-345-6289. (CAL*SCAN)

HELP WANTED -DRIVERS

DRIVER-COVENANT TRANSPORT *Coast to coast runs *Teams start up to 46 cents *$1,000 sign-on bonus for exp. co. drivers. For experienced drivers 1-800-441-4394. Owner Operators 1-877-848-6615 Graduate driving students 1-800-338-6428 (CAL*SCAN)

DRIVER - KLLM Solos/39 cents, Teams/41cents, O/O's/87 cents. $10K bonus! CDL/A EOE 1-800-925-5556 x4779 O/O's 1-800-955-4810 x4779 www.kllm.com (CAL*SCAN)

DRIVER-WHEN IT comes to benefits, we've got all the bells & whistles. *Paid weekly *Great pay *$1,000 sign-on bonus. *Driving Student graduates welcome. SRT Toll free 1-877BIG-PAYDAY (1-877-244-7293). (CAL*SCAN)

DRIVERS - **.32CPM ** Do you need: *More home time *More money *Job security *Benefits. You can't beat our program!! Ask about the hiring bonus!! If you have 6 months T/T - with Class-A CDL including HazMat, call now! Ask for Steve or Harold, National Freight, Inc. 1-800-666-0380 Stockton: 209-462-2748. (CAL*SCAN)

DRIVERS - FLATBED DRIVERS needed! Earn up to $.39/mile! Drivers needed to: Haul glass and general commodity. *Quality home time *Regional or 48 states *3yrs. OTR + 1yr. flatbed *Owner/Operators welcome. Call recruiting Combined Transport 1-800-290-2327. (CAL*SCAN)

DRIVERS, Join the CRST Gold Rush! *Team Drivers *Driving Students *No experience at all. CRST International call 1-800-781-2778. EOE M-F. (CAL*SCAN)

LAND FOR SALE

ARIZONA NORTHWEST 40 acres -$16,900 great cabin site, privacy, and mountain views, good water area. Easy terms. Call AZLR 1-888-567-6736. (CAL*SCAN)

AZ'S BEST BARGAIN 36 acres -$19,900. Beautiful ranch in Williams/Flagstaff area, perfect 6,100' climate. Spectacular mountain views, borders state land. Easy terms. AZLR 1-888-498-8249. (CAL*SCAN)

LAND/ ACREAGE

20 ACRE RANCHES $8,995 near booming El Paso, Texas. Roads in - surveyed. Low down, long terms. Excellent location. Free maps & pictures. Sunset Ranches 1-800-343-9444. (CAL*SCAN)

MANUFACTURED HOUSING

BANK repo's. Manufactured homes in parks or movers. Buy direct and save. Financing available with low down payment! Wholesale units available also! Contact GREENPOINT CREDIT, 1-800-421-4990. (CAL*SCAN)

MISC.

DELL COMPUTERS....Built-To-Order. Pentium-III available. Resolved credit problems OK! $0 down, low monthly payments - O.A.C.Open 7 days. Special offer - Free Internet Access - most areas. 1-800-477-9016 Code EC27. www.omcsolutions.com (CAL*SCAN)

EARN Legal College Degree QUICKLY! Bachelor's, Master's, Doctorate by correspondence based upon prior education, experience, study course. Free catalog, Cambridge State University (800)964-8316. 24hrs. (CAL*SCAN)

RAZOR SCOOTERS - SAVE 40%! Factory direct! FREE rush shipping! www.escooterz.com Or call toll free 24 hrs. 1-888-285-2027. (CAL*SCAN)

WOLFF TANNING BEDS Tan at home! Buy Direct and Save! Commercial/Home units from $199.00. Low monthly payments. Free color catalog. Call today 1-800-842-1310. (CAL*SCAN)

MONEY TO LOAN

HOMEOWNERS WITH CREDIT worries may now quickly qualify for loans. Stonecastle's a direct lender that can tell you over the phone and without obligation. Call 1-800-700-1242 ext. 306. (CAL*SCAN)

MORTGAGE/ REAL ESTATE

HOMEOWNERS NEED MONEY? Perfect credit, poor credit, we can help. Debt consolidation, refinance, home improvement, new purchase. Quick Approval. Sunrise Home Loans 1-800-750-9919 DRE#01109661. (CAL*SCAN)

MUSIC

WANT TO BUY or sell a guitar or amplifier, a drum set, a piano or organ, a horn or tuba, another instrument...? Check out www.ebay.com/local (CAL*SCAN)

SPORT GOODS

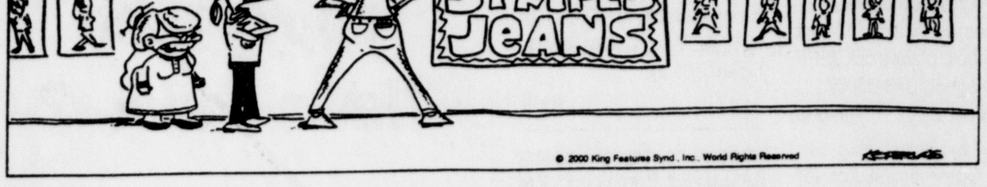
WANT TO BUY or sell a set of golf clubs, a mountain bike, a treadmill, a weight machine, or other sporting goods...? Check out www.ebay.com/local (CAL*SCAN)

PUZZLES & COMICS

THE SPATS by JEFF PICKERING



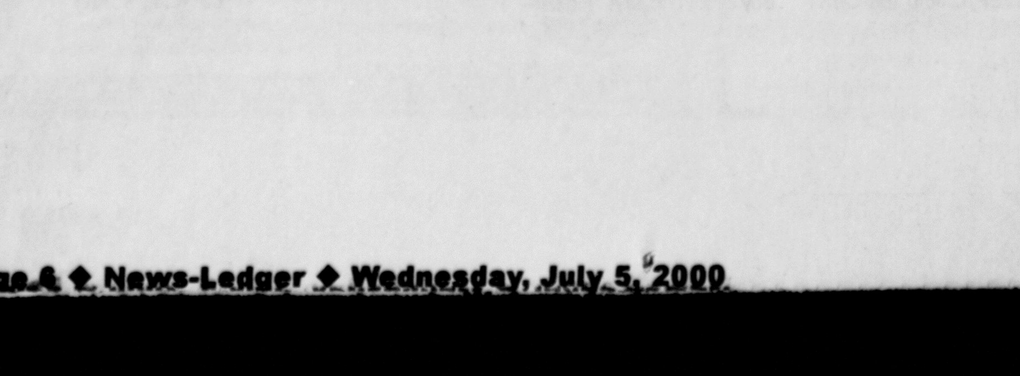
OUT ON A LIMB by GARY KOPERVAS







R.F.D. by MIKE MARLAND



For answers, please see the box on the back page.

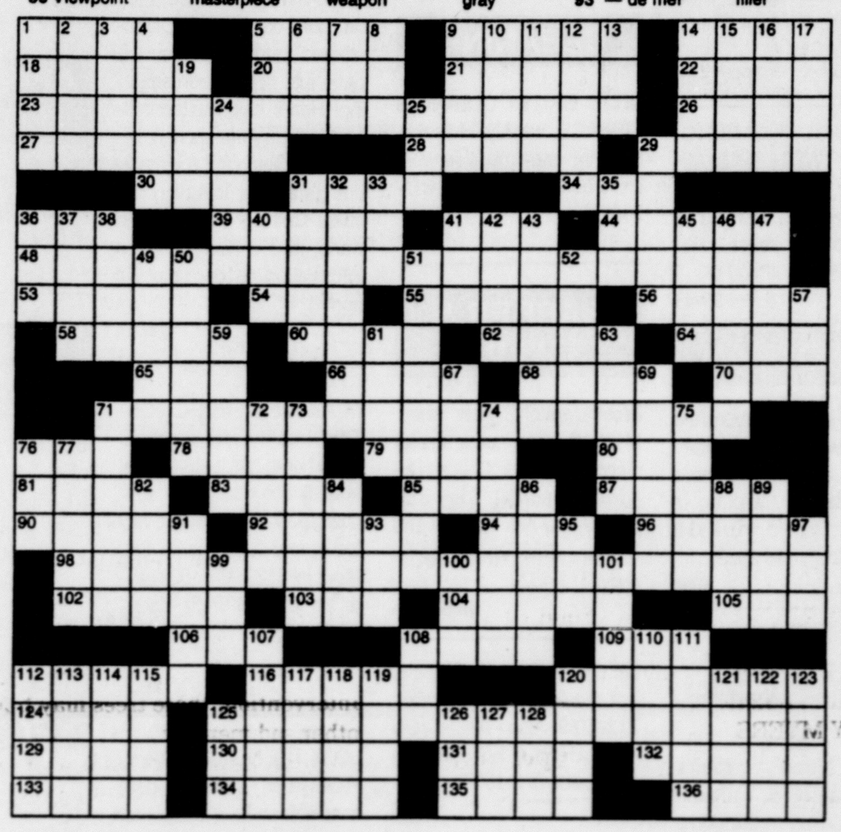
Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 Sale stipulation
5 Street urchin
9 Isaac's mom
14 Marsh, for short
18 Distend
20 Ferris-wheel part
21 Lithe
22 — Major
23 What Dad never hears
26 Pro foe
27 Corrective measure
28 Furniture wood
29 Heavy-weight Mike
30 Sphere
31 Cooking fat
34 — Zedong
36 Literary collection
39 Sour
41 Mrs. McKinley
44 Word with socks or suit
48 What Dad never hears
53 Experiment
54 Calendar abbr.
55 Beethoven wrote one
56 Competitor
58 Viewpoint
60 Normandy site
62 '93 Kevin Kline film
64 Grim
65 Peeper protector
66 Wooden strip
68 Dissolve
70 Fast way to the UK
71 What Dad never hears
76 "Now I've got you!"
78 — Valley, CA
79 Painter Paul
80 Air-quality org.
81 Town meetings
83 Apiece
85 Brink
87 Actor McDowall
90 Bandleader Shaw
92 Abounds (with)
94 Neighbor of Tenn.
96 Sacks
98 What Dad never hears
102 Happen next
103 Fashion monogram
104 Michelangelo masterpiece
105 Muckraker Nellie
106 Bit of butter
108 '69 Oliver hit
109 DDE's predecessor
112 West Point student
116 Lab critter
120 Get-togethers
124 Norwegian king
125 What Dad never hears
129 Torrid or Frigid
130 "Ben-Hur" extra
131 French airport
132 Hood of "Our Gang"
133 1776, e.g.
134 Irish poet
135 "Bang a Gong" rockers
136 Film —

DOWN

1 Singer Lane
2 Disparage
3 It comes before kappa
4 Permission
5 Fade away
6 Medieval weapon
7 — de France
8 Nourished
9 Comic Mort
10 Like fine wine
11 Paella ingredient
12 Eye-opener?
13 "Tell — No" ('65 hit)
14 Dock
15 Decorative vases
16 Concerning
17 Acquire
19 Do Europe
24 "— Cowboy" ('80 film)
25 Lincoln son
29 Lighthouse or minaret
31 Ade ingredients
32 With skill
33 New York city
35 "Do — say, not . . ."
36 Feign
37 Asta's mistress
38 Obote's ouster
40 LP replacements
41 Mischief-maker
42 Chased away the gray
43 Chalet shape
45 Markey or Bagnold
46 Offer an opinion
47 Despots
49 Bald bird
50 Comrades
51 Like turtles
52 Praises passionately
57 Authorize
59 One of the Munsters
61 Deficiency
63 Senior member
67 Used a scuffle
69 Add the finishing touch
71 Kramden's crony
72 Fancy fiddle
73 Fine point
74 Finery
75 Gymnast Comaneci
76 "Birds — feather . . ."
77 Neighsayer?
82 Pretension
84 Fells
86 Comic DeGeneres
88 Beat
89 Holler
91 Let out the lava
93 "— de mer"
95 Qty.
97 Farm feature
99 Indeed
100 Gibbon or gorilla
101 Swift savage
107 Resort lake
108 David James Elliott series
110 Move quickly
111 Big guy
112 Tearoom item
113 — vera
114 Delany or Plato
115 At any time
117 "— Said" ('61 hit)
118 Coup d'—
119 Prohibits
120 Very low river?
121 Natural hairdo
122 "— Marleen" ('81 film)
123 Constellation component
125 Twisted
126 "Baloney!"
127 Be human
128 Flagon filler



HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

MAGIC MAZE MATES

W E T A M M U S C Z W U R P M
J H T E C Z D X U S Q N L E J
G E T A M W E R C E E E C T Z
X V T T M T C T T T T T R A P
N L J A A A I A A A H A E M E
C A Y M M W M V M M T M R I T
P N U L K O A I I N K O G N A
E L C B R E T A M I L C C A M
P Z X B W S E U U S R P E O E
M L J I E G E T A M I R P H R
E D B A Y X E T A M Y A L P C

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Acclimate, Animate, Automate, Bromate, Checkmate, Comate, Cremate, Crewmate, Decimate, Estimate, Imamate, Playmate, Plumate, Primate, Summate

©2000 King Features, Inc.

Wishing Well®

4	3	2	8	3	5	7	8	2	7	2	5	8
D	N	P	F	E	L	Y	U	R	O	O	I	N
4	2	4	3	4	6	4	7	4	5	6	8	5
Y	S	N	V	A	A	M	U	I	N	C	T	G
4	6	2	7	2	6	8	3	7	3	4	8	4
C	L	P	A	E	E	I	E	R	R	C	M	A
8	5	8	5	8	2	4	8	2	6	7	5	2
E	E	S	R	A	R	R	H	O	V	E	A	U
5	2	5	3	7	4	5	7	4	6	4	5	8
W	S	H	O	C	E	I	H	E	E	R	L	E
6	5	7	8	2	6	3	8	7	2	7	6	2
R	E	E	A	I	T	U	D	R	D	I	H	E
7	6	3	6	3	2	7	6	2	6	7	6	7
S	O	I	U	T	A	H	G	S	H	E	T	D

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

© King Features Syndicate, Inc., 2000. World rights reserved.

challenger® THE INTERNATIONAL CROSSNUMBER GAME

DIRECTIONS
Fill each square with a number, one through nine
- Horizontal squares should add to totals on right
- Vertical squares should add to totals on bottom
- Diagonal squares through center should add to total in upper and lower right

THERE MAY BE MORE THAN ONE SOLUTION

Today's Challenge
Time 3 Minutes 26 Seconds
Your Working Time Minutes Seconds

		2		13
	2			26
			8	25
1				16
28	15	13	24	20

©2000 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

OPINION

News-Ledger Editorial

Cabaldon's foray into West Sac's school system

Less than two weeks ago, Mayor Christopher Cabaldon announced he would be forming a "mayor's blue ribbon commission" on local schools. The commission would be charged with figuring out what's right and what's wrong with the local school system, and then making recommendations on where to go from here.

As this page goes to print, there is no word yet on whom will be appointed to this commission.

Strictly speaking, the schools are none of Cabaldon's business. The schools are governed by the Washington Unified School District, and not by the City of West Sacramento or its mayor. There is little doubt that Cabaldon's school strategy will step on some toes belonging to Washington Unified School District leadership.

Nevertheless, Cabaldon is right that the future of the city is tied closely to the success of its school district, and even the most ardent booster of local schools will admit there is plenty of room for improvement in them. Most honest observers, as well, will admit that current leadership of the district is tied up more in solving small administrative crises than on fixing the "big picture." The big picture, though, is exactly where the new commission is supposed to look. Its search might take it in the direction of recommending a reshuffling of the way the district is governed, for example – and that's the kind of recommendation not likely to come from within the W.U.S.D. establishment itself.

Also, the new commission is potentially in a better position to create large strategies and large changes than are the current leaders of the local school district. Major educational reform and restructuring are not part of the resume of W.U.S.D.'s current leaders.

Cabaldon, however, is in position to tap people with just this kind of expertise for duty on his commission. His "day job" is as vice president of the state community college system. He also has experience working within the state legislature on issues including education. He could – and probably will – ask some of the experts he has come into contact with in these capacities to serve on the new commission. There's nothing wrong with this. West Sacramento should always seek outside ideas when searching for innovative solutions to its problems, whether the problems are in education, community planning, law enforcement or some other field. To rely only on "experts" already present in this community of only 30,000 people is dangerous, inadequate and provincial.

There is plenty of grumbling that Cabaldon's decision to use his "bully pulpit" for a forum on local education is an act of political grandstanding by a politician believed to keep one eye on higher office. But if the commission promotes a healthy discussion, and proposes a few creative solutions that would not otherwise come to light, who cares? At the very least, a public discussion of the local school system will help encourage more people to consider running for the school board in November.

Washington Unified School District could well have formed just such a strategic commission on its own, but hasn't. The mayor's blue ribbon commission, then, is a good idea. Let's give it a chance and see if some good can come of it.

Letters to the Editor

VFW needs your help

West Sacramento's Veterans of Foreign War Post No. 8762, located at 905 Drever Street, has begun a fund drive to acquire two small bronze plaques to honor America's military veterans who served during World War II and Vietnam.

Each plaque, which will be mounted on a concrete pillar on West Sacramento's River Walk, measures 15 3/4" X 15 3/4". One features an etching of the World War II Victory Medal. The other, the Vietnam Service Medal. Wording is to reflect service and sacrifice.

The plaques are to be dedicated during a special ceremony scheduled and announced at a later date. Anyone wishing to make a donation should make their check out to VFW Post N. 8762 and indicate WWII or Vietnam. Send to: VFW, PO Box 1522, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

For Further information, call Hugh King at the VFW at 371-7245.

LARRY MYERS
Commander, West Sacramento VFW #8762

Oak tree correction

My apologies to Mr. Schatzel, Director of the West Sacramento City Department of Parks & Community Services, and your readers in misidentifying the oak trees scheduled for imminent removal as being on Linden Road. The two oaks I mentioned in last week's letter to the editor have not been marked for removal and, therefore, apparently are not on anybody's removal list.

The trees that have been surveyed and tagged for removal in compliance with the wishes of the subdivision developers are one very large and several smaller oaks on the west side of the property behind the previously referenced oaks.

However, a glitch has occurred in the well-laid plans. The Planning Department advised that the trees are not on the developer's property. The owner has not given approval for removal. Plans for removal have been at least temporarily shelved.

Thanks, Planning Commission. Without your intervention, these trees may have been just another sad memory.

Why are developers not being required to include existing trees in their subdivision design, as were the developers of our Lakewood subdivision, and are required of most subdivision designers in other California communities?

A valid case can be made that the developers of the Lakewood subdivision, as well as land owners in the community, benefited economically from the retention of the trees in the design of that subdivision.

HAROLD B. TURNER
West Sacramento

Thank you Rep. Ose

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to our Congressman, Doug Ose, for his involvement with the prospective North Delta Wildlife Refuge. From the start, Congressman Ose has seen examples time and again where the interests of the local people have not been adequately protected when the federal government acquires land, displaces revenues, and dictates future policy with respect to the acquired land.

A negotiation process is in place that is carefully considering options for proceeding. Nevertheless, without some leverage for the local interests, federal agencies can establish large holdings in places such as Yolo County on an almost unilateral basis. Forty-seven thousand acres, the original proposal, is more than seventy-three square miles or about 7% of the total land area of Yolo County.

Fortunately, a thorough stakeholder process has been established so that all the interests involved can be given fair hearing, concerns identified and addressed, and common ground found. This is the approach that led to the successful establishment of the Vic Fazio Yolo Basin Wildlife Area, at 3500 acres the largest wetlands restoration project west of the Mississippi. Shouldn't the new proposal, which is about ten times larger as currently discussed, receive the same review and scrutiny?

It was the lack of sufficient discussion of local concerns, particularly relating to flood control issues, that motivated Congressman Ose to intervene with the appropriation measure for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. While his inserted language has now been deleted, it has served the purpose of eliciting a promise from the director of the agency for fair consideration and treatment of the substantial local interests.

TOM STALLARD
Yolo County Supervisor, District 3

Public notices

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 22, 2000
File No. 2000-467

The following person is doing business as PetLap Company, 3108 Finch St., Davis, CA 95616:

Janet Jones Ford, same address.

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on June 20, 2000.

/s/Janet Jones Ford

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: JUN 22, 2000
by: /s/G. Tolle, Deputy Clerk
July 5 12 19 26

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 30, 2000
File No. 2000-483

The following person is doing business as OK Enterprises, 619 Cummins Way, W. Sacto CA 95605:

Vitaliy Boryshko, Elvira Gavelovskaya, same address.

This business is conducted by Husband and Wife. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 5-12-00.

/s/Borushko Vitaliy

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: JUN 30, 2000
by: /s/Vikki Wittig, Deputy Clerk
July 5 12 19 26

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 23, 2000
File No. 2000-470

The following person is doing business as Ray's R.V.'s, 2920 West Capitol Ave., West Sacramento, CA 95691:

Ray I. Myers, 8393 La Riviera Dr., Sacramento, CA 95826.

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on July 6, 1993. Previous fictitious business name number 93-449.

/s/Ray I. Myers

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: JUN 23, 2000
by: /s/G. Tolle, Deputy Clerk
July 5 12 19 26

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 23, 2000
File No. 2000-472

The following person is doing business as Blue Box Visions, 3337 Monterey Ave., Davis, CA 95616:

Brad L. Bitner, same address.

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 6/1/00.

/s/Brad Bitner

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: JUN 23, 2000
by: /s/Josie Ramirez, Deputy Clerk
July 5 12 19 26

NOTICE OF HEARING

The West Sacramento Planning Commission will consider the following matters on Thursday July 20, 2000, at West Sacramento City Hall, 1350 Halyard Drive, West Sacramento, California, at the times as specified or as soon thereafter as the matters may be heard:

6:00 p.m.
Item #1
Zoning Administrator Actions
None
Item #2
Continued Public Hearing for Riverside Commerce Center II – Variance 00-02

VLMK Engineers requests a variance to eliminate the requirement to construct an eight foot (8') high privacy wall along the northwest and west property lines at 920 Riverside Parkway (APN: 14-660-11). The property is zoned M-1 (Light Industrial). A categorical exemption has been prepared for this project. APPLICANT: VLMK Engineers, 3933 SW Kelly Avenue, Portland, OR 97201. OWNER: Harsch Investment Properties, P.O. Box 2708, Portland, OR 97208. (TJ)

Item #3
Reed Avenue Freeway Identification Sign CUP #00-03 – PD Amendment #00-01

The applicants seeks a conditional use permit and an amendment to Planned Development 23 (PD 23) to allow the construction of a 50-foot tall freeway sign on the east side of I-80 and south of Reed Avenue (APN #'s 14-640-76, 14-640-77, 14-640-79). The property is zoned C-3 PD 23. A Mitigated Negative Declaration has been circulated. APPLICANT: Young Electric Sign Company, 4105-C South Market Court, Sacramento, CA 95834. OWNER: Riverpoint Associates, 100 South Vincent, Suite 300, West Covina, CA 91790. (SW)

/s/Stephen M. Patek, Director
Community Development Department
July 5

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The West Sacramento City Council will conduct a public hearing on July 19, 2000 at 7:00 PM or as soon thereafter as possible on the following. The hearing will be held at city hall, 1350 Halyard Dr., West Sacramento. Interested persons are invited to attend. In compliance with the ADA, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, you should contact the City Clerk at 373-5800. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting. City Hall is handicapped accessible. Resolution 00-46 authorizing collection and requesting inclusion of delinquent charges and penalties for utilities on the secured tax roll.
July 5

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed May 25, 2000
File No. 2000-394

The following person is doing business as Home Enterprises, 1296 E. Gibson Rd. #245:

Gary R. Waters, 1296 E. Gibson Rd. Suite 245, Woodland CA 95776.

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 5-25-00.

/s/Gary R. Waters

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: May 25, 2000
by: /s/Nathan Hunt, Deputy Clerk
June 14 21 28 July 5

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed May 10, 2000
File No. 2000-366

The following person is doing business as Super Saver Food; Super Saver, 34 West Court Street, Woodland, CA 95695:

Lucky Stores, Inc., (a Florida corporation), 250 Parkcenter Blvd., PO Box 20, Boise ID 83726.

This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 3/1/1995.

/s/Julie Thomson Backe/
Assistant Corporate Secretary
Lucky Stores, Inc.

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: May 10, 2000
by: /s/Georgie Tolle, Deputy Clerk
June 14 21 28 July 5

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 13, 2000
File No. 2000-445

The following person is doing business as Picture Express, 8780 Longmore Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628:

Hanging Burl, Inc., a California corporation, 8780 Longmore Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628.

This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 2-01-00.

/s/Scott J. Davis, President
Hanging Burl, Inc.

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: JUN 13, 2000
by: /s/G. Tolle, Deputy Clerk
June 21 28 July 5 12

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed May 12, 2000
File No. 2000-371

The following person is doing business as Cat Clinic of Davis, 1351A W. Covell Blvd., Davis, CA 95616:

Saburo James Kaneko and Kathleen Joan Kaneko, 533 Hermosa Pl., Davis, CA 95616.

This business is conducted by Husband and Wife. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 5-12-2000.

/s/Jim Kaneko

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: May 12, 2000
by: /s/G. Tolle, Deputy Clerk
June 21 28 July 5 12

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 5, 2000
File No. 2000-408

The following person is doing business as FLUIR, 1000 Fredricks St., Woodland CA 95776:

Shannon Kathleen Johnson, same address.

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on June 5, 2000.

/s/Shannon K. Johnson

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: June 5, 2000
by: /s/Kim Weisenburg, Deputy Clerk
June 21 28 July 5 12

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 12, 2000
File No. 2000-437

The following person is doing business as FABRIC DESIGNS.COM, 627 First St., Woodland, CA 95695:

Marjorie B. McWilliams, same address.

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 6/12/00.

/s/Marjorie B. McWilliams

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: JUN 12, 2000
by: /s/Victoria Barnes, Deputy Clerk
June 21 28 July 5 12

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 09, 2000
File No. 2000-428

The following person is doing business as MJO & Company, 2008 Alta Loma St., Davis, CA 95616:

Mary Jo Birks.

This business is conducted by an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 6-9-00.

/s/Mary Jo Birks

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: JUN 09, 2000
by: /s/Linda Smith, Deputy Clerk
June 21 28 July 5 12

Fictitious Business Name Statement
Filed JUN 14, 2000
File No. 2000-448

The following person is doing business as Southport Keys, 9848 Business Park Drive, Suite H, Sac-

Continued on page 9

PAGE FROM THE PAST

WASHINGTON NEWS ITEMS

The Sacramento River registered 4 feet 1 inch, United States gauge at the Southern Pacific bridge yesterday.

Last Sunday Judge Barry and wife returned home after a vacation of two weeks at Richardson Springs. In his own unique way Judge Barry describes his experiences at the Springs, and while it would not be fair to publish his description, he has adopted some new language to describe those experiences. Anyway, both he and Mrs. Barry were greatly benefitted and anticipate an early return to a place that has done them so much good.

The baby boy of Mike Stuben has been seriously ill during the past few days. First he was taken down with measles, which developed into pneumonia, and in addition he became afflicted with whooping cough. His parents fear that the complication of diseases may result badly and they are doing everything in their power to relieve the child.

Alma Bennetts has been in Oakland druing the past week visiting with friends and relatives and expects to remain for a week or ten days more.

Report had it yesterday that Homer Lee had sold his place on Elizabeth street to Angelo Da Prato. Homer could not be seen by the Independent last night to confirm the rumor but it is safe to say that the property was sold at a very good figure. Probably the Lee family will continue to make their home in Washington, for Homer would scarcely know how to behave himself if he crossed the bridge permanently.

Lloyd Stewart returned to Monterey this week accompanied by his stepmother, Mrs. Hattie Stewart, and by his sister, Mrs. Archie Lewis and four children. Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Lewis will remain at the coast to visit with John Stewart, who is the postmaster at Monterey.

Mr. and Mrs. James Richeson and Miss Audrey Richeson motored to Arbuckle Wednesday and plan to remain there for a week.

E. L. Blackington is ill at his home, and his place on the town waterwagon is being filled this week by Deputy Constable Ira Davis.

H. Leinberger has returned from a vacation spent in San Francisco.

Mrs. S. T. Rickard and daughter, Ruth, accompanied by Mrs. M. Ellis have gone to Byron Hot Springs for a vacation.

Mrs. D. Stevens and children of San Jose are visiting her mother, Mrs. Esther Newton.

The Bryte Extension Club held a meeting last Friday evening at which Mr. and Mrs. Jackson were admitted to membership. A resolution was adopted thanking D. L. Freese for the loan of the piano in use by the club.

Mrs. M. Hagin and daughter of San Francisco are visitors at the F. W. Todhunter home.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Thomas are now touring Yellowstone Park on their vacation.

Mrs. Ed. Holmes and daughter, Jean, are visiting in Stockton, where they are the guests of Mrs. Elmer Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Cameron, Dr. and Mrs. Charles Muland and Miss Claire Conrad have returned from an outing spent at Lake Tahoe.

Blair Manchester left Saturday for Tres Pinos to visit with his sister, Mrs. Hilma Kiff.

W. B. Lindner of San Francisco is visiting his sister, Mrs. B. Richardson.

Frank Wilson and Charles Todhunter motored to Richardson Springs Saturday, returning yesterday, accompanied by Judge and Mrs. J. D. Barry.

A soft drink license has been granted to C. G. Colbert, which will be conducted at his home on the river levee.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Eugene have returned from a two weeks' trip to Fallon, Nevada.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Clifford, Miss Leona Thatcher and brother and Miss Ruth Thomas went to Merced to spend the week-end at the home of Mrs. Clifford's and Miss Thomas' parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Thomas of Lodi were week-end visitors at the J. N. Bennett home.

Miss Eva Thornton of Richmond is a visitor at the home of Mrs. Selma Forrest.

Herman Garber, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. William Edenson and Miss Bernice Butter motored to Oakland last Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Dahlmier spent the Fourth of July holiday in Sacramento visiting with Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Freese. Mrs. Dahlmier and her nieces, Florence and Stella Ryan, were weenk-end guests with Mr. and Mrs. Freese.

CLAIMS ALLOWED BY YOLO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County claims passed by the Board of Supervisors, July 2, 1923:

Blackington, E. L., roadwork	$182.00
Curts, S. C., roadwork	71.50
Davis Garage, repairs	239.52
Kroninger, John, payroll	20.21
Luft, J. C., labor	3.00
Luft, J. C., parts	12.75
Leinberger, H., Jr., roadwork	29.75
P. G. & E. Co., lights	89.04
White, C. L., roadwork	104.00
Washington Water & Light Co.	114.00

QUARTER MILLION PAID FOR HOLLAND TRACTS

Clarksburg, July 7.—S. B. L. Spanggord of Oakland and Mrs. Evelyn Caulton of Berkeley have purchased farm land parcels in the Holland Land Company tract centering here, the

"IF DRUG ADDICTS INCREASE WITHIN NEXT TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AS IN LAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS THIS WILL BE A NATION OF DRUG FIENDS"

While the authorities of the United States are wasting time trying to prevent well-balanced citizens from getting an invigorating and rejuvenating portion of alcohol those authorities are overlooking the great and debasing element that threatens the very life of the nation—narcotics.

So great is the increase in the number of drug addicts that the association opposing the consumption of narcotics hesitates not a moment in asserting there are four million known drug fiends in the United States today, without counting those who are not known.

Constable Buckingham said to the writer yesterday: "If drug addicts increase within the next twenty-five years as they have in the last twenty-five years this will be a nation of drug fiends."

A peace officer for many years in this section of Yolo County and a deputy sheriff for many years in Woodland and warden of the county hospital for a four-year term, Buckingham ought to be able to say a word of common sense in relation to this matter.

Be it remembered that he is a strict teetotaler, not having touched liquor of any kind for years, but yet he is a strong anti-prohibitionist, declaring that "if drug addicts increase within the next twenty-five years as they have in the last twenty-five years, this will be a nation of drug fiends."

Unfortunately this section of Yolo County is getting a great deal of blame for the presence of many drug addicts in this locality.

These people are driven out of Sacramento by the police force and the nearest exits are the bridges crossing the Sacramento river to the Yolo side.

One constable here cannot handle the situation and therefore the State pharmacy board together with the officers of Sacramento help out in an effort to prevent the distribution and consumption of narcotics.

Here is a slight list furnished the writer yesterday by Judge Barry and which shows the terrible depredations and the convictions for drug using since June 1st.

Yesterday, July 12th, Francisco Silva was sent to the county jail in Woodland for having in his possession cigarettes made of the Mexican weed known as Marihuna. His sentence was ninety days. He had been selling the cigarettes made of the drug to addicts in Sacramento, and fearing arrest he crossed the bridge to be arrested by Constable Buckingham and P. J. McInerney, now in the employ of the Grand Jury of Sacramento County under the direction of the district attorney.

Yesterday also, July 12th, Spencer Sutherland and Dempsey Ellwood were arrested under a charge of vagrancy. They were sentenced by Judge Barry to 180 days in the county jail in Woodland, but the sentence was suspended to give them time to leave town, for only a week ago they were released by Sheriff Monroe from the county jail in Woodland.

July 10th, A. Hanlan and J. Wilson were each given 90 days by Judge Barry for having morphine in their possession. They went to Woodland to feed and sleep at the expense of the taxpayers of Yolo County.

July 10th, Chas. Matthews and Frank Addison were given 90 days each in the county jail for having morphine and cocaine in their possession. The sentence was 90 days on each charge, to run consecutively, thus leaving them six months to be fed and bedded by the taxpayers of Yolo County.

On July 10th also, J. Haley, J. Wilson, R. LaRue, J. Reed, A. Johnson and J. Kelly were sent to the county jail in Woodland for 90 days each for having morphine in their possession. They, too, will board at the county jail in Yolo County at the expense of the taxpayers of Yolo County, even though they spent only a few hours on the Yolo side of the bridge after being sent away by the Sacramento police.

On the same day, Ed. Wheatley was sent up by Judge Barry for 180 days for having narcotics in his possession. He is an old offender having served time for drug peddling before now.

On June 21st, Gus Williams was fined $95 for having drugs in his possession. At the same time he had two checks in the amount of $150, each and $95 in silver in his possession. Judge Barry fined him $95 and suspended his sentence of 180 days to permit him to get out of town.

On June 14th, Buster Brown, a colored man, C. Johnson, J. Howell and Fred Ownes were arrested under the drug act. The three latter were sentenced to 90 days but were given permission to leave town immediately. Brown was permitted to go also, but was found two days later again distributing drugs to drug addicts in this neighborhood.

On June 4th, John Ryan was taken up with morphine in his possession. His sentence before Judge Barry was 90 days, which he is now serving in the county jail.

On the same day, Florence Montgomery and Grace Roberts were taken up on a charge of vagrancy and each sentenced to 180 days in the county jail in Woodland in an effort to rid them of the debasing habit of drug consumption. They, too, are boarding with Sheriff Monroe at the present time, although they never spent a cent in all their lives with a merchant of Yolo County or with any resident of Yolo County.

On June 2d, Thelma Johnson was sentenced to Woodland to the county jail to board with Sheriff Monroe for having in her possession morphine.

On the same day, Daisy McCarthy and Lillian Clark were arrested as drug fiends. They are now boarding with Sheriff Monroe at the expense of taxpayers of Yolo County, although both of them were former residents of Sacramento but were driven across the bridge by the Sacramento police.

On June 1st, Lazarus Andrews, colored, was sentenced to 90 days for having morphine in his possession. Tom Lewis went the same road on the same day for 90 days and George Finch took a similar route for having morphine and cocaine in his pockets.

On the same day, June 1st, James Venable was found with morphine and cocaine. He, too, is boarding with the sheriff of Yolo County at the request of Judge Barry.

Of the above list not one single person has been a resident of this section of Yolo County. They were driven across the bridge by the police of Sacramento and are victims of that terrible and deteriorating habit of drug consumption.

It is an assured fact that most farm laborers who are deprived of their beer or liquor turn to drug consumption as a palliative for their cravings.

Most of the drug addicts seem to be born, according to Judge Barry, to indulge in the habit but many are driven to it by the prohibition that is effective in the United States today.

Constable Buckingham confirms the views and is at a loss for a solution of the question.

As he says above: "If drug addicts increase within the next twenty-five years as they have in the last twenty-five years this will be a nation of drug fiends."

FIRE STATION FOR SALE BY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN

The auxiliary fire station that has been located on Mary street, near Fifth, for several years is being advertised for sale by the volunteer firemen of Washington.

Bids are being asked for the building so that the highest price will take it, and those bids must be in the hands of Secretary William Bartle not later than 6 p. m., Monday, August 6, 1923.

The firemen have made new arrangements in the town hall building for their fire fighting apparatus, thus leaving the building on Mary street vacant so far as fire fighting apparatus is concerned.

The building would make a splendid garage for some property owners in the neighborhood and could easily be moved, for it was built with the intention that it might have to be moved at some future date.

JAMES AND GREGORY WIN LIBERTY THROUGH THEIR AGES

Accused of bootlegging a few weeks ago, Albert James, familiarly known as "Jitney," and Dennis Gregory, were let off in Woodland last Saturday, July 7th, by Judge Harrison with a suspended sentence of 90 days.

James is well known in this locality but is practically blind. He is 78 years of age and for a time eked out a miserable existence by selling intoxicants to his neighbors and his friends.

Private detectives sent out by the district attorney's office arrested him, and he would surely have gone to jail had not Judge Harrison of Woodland been considerate enough to suspend his sentence.

Gregory probably did not sell a quart of intoxicating liquor in all his life. But two private detectives managed to buy some from him and he was arrested.

POOR STORY REFLECTING ON THIS SECTION OF YOLO COUNTY

On last Monday, July 9th, the Woodland Democrat published a story that does not reflect very creditably on the residents and taxpayers of Riverbank.

The story is particularly obnoxious because it emanated from an old resident of this section.

The story reads:

Canned heat as a stimulant is becoming more popular than moonshine, drugs or opium in Yolo County, according to County Horticultural Commissioner Harold Van Tassel, who has spent much time of late along the river in the vicinity of Broderick, Riverbank and Elkhorn, going and coming from orchards and horticultural activities in those districts.

"There is one big tree near Riverbank," declared Van Tassel this morning, "where there is a pile of several hundred discarded cans, all of the alcohol soaked pulp known as canned heat. Tramps and the outcast class use it to satisfy their craving for liquor and drugs. It is becoming the most popular of the stimulants for the hobo class because it is cheap and has a powerful 'kick' providing the consumer survives."

HURT IN MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT

Miss Francis Davidson, 517 B street, and Ralph H. Shaw, 512 2d street, were injured slightly when a tandem motorcycle on which they were riding crashed into an automobile driven by John Morton near the latter's home at Fifteenth and Q streets early last Saturday night.

Norton's car had been parked behind a pile of sand on Q street, and he had driven it around the sand and guided it to the side of the pile when the motorcycle struck the car.

After the accident Shaw was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Roberts on a charge of speeding, the officers claiming the motorcycle was being ridden at a speed of 26 miles an hour.

Some people have been venal enough to accuse the Sacramento County Grand Jury of being libertines.

All the nurses are recognized as being the most chaste, the most pure, the most modest and the most sedate little things in the world.

Julius'

Wonderful Sunday Dinners

75 Cents

Chicken and Raviola and the best of Italian cooking. Extra help has been secured to give perfect service.

New dance platform
Dancing every night

3d and J STREETS

Property Owners Protective Association

Dealers in

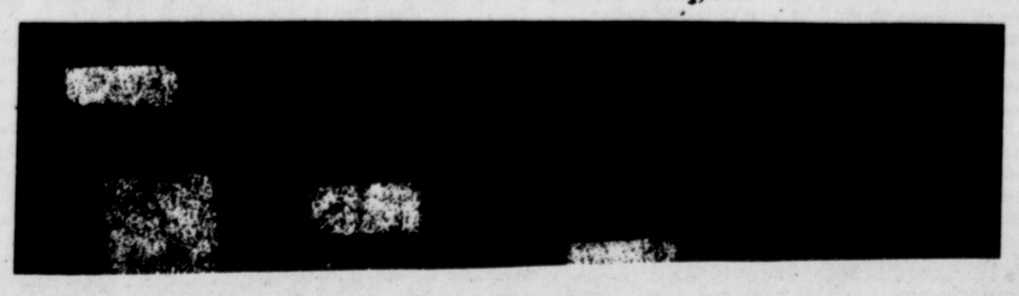
LUMBER

MILLWORK
SASH and DOORS
MOULDINGS
NAILS and HARDWARE

We are not affiliated with any Lumber Trust
Our prices are the lowest—Make us prove it

Yard 2320 R St. Main 6855
W. D. McKOY, Manager

TAKE A PACKAGE HOME



BRYTE, Yolo Co., V Lot, 73-feet front, block to highway. $250; terms. Particulars Mrs. G. Hutchinson, 2120 Arcata Road, Eureka, Calif.

Hemstitching and Picoting Attachment. Fits any sewing machine. Price $2.00. Checks 10c extra. Light's Mail Order House, Box 172, Birmingham, Ala. 38-43

FARM WANTED—Wanted to hear from owner of farm or good land for sale, for fall delivery. L. Jones, Box 974, Olney, Ill.

FOUND

A bunch of keys evidently in daily use was found last Monday on the S. P. bridge by a young man in Washington. About to leave town, he desires to return the keys to their owner and has left them in charge of the Independent, on payment for this ad.

WANTED—Men, women and children in every community to send a post card for SUNSET'S big, interesting Gift Catalogue—just out. Hundreds of useful, valuable rewards in return for a little "spare time." Address. Catalogue Dept., SUNSET MAGAZINE, San Francisco.

SALE—ARMY SHOES—SALE

We have just bought a tremendous stock of Army Munson last shoes to be sold to the public direct. Price $2.75. These shoes are 100% solid leather with heavy double soles sewed and nailed. The uppers are of heavy tan chrome leather with bellows tongue, thereby making them waterproof. These shoes are selling very fast and we advise you to order at once to insure your order being filled. The sizes are 6 to 11 all widths. Pay postman on receipt of goods or send money order. Money refunded if shoes are not satisfactory. THE U. S. STORES CO., 1441 Broadway, New York City.

6% MONEY. Under Bankers Reserve System 6% loans may be secured on city or farm property, to buy, build, improve, or pay indebtedness. Bankers Reserve Deposit Company, 1648 California Street, Denver, Colorado.

WANTED—Man with car to sell complete line low priced TIRES and TUBES. $100.00 per week. Sterlingworth Tire Co., 343 Sterling, E. Liverpool, Ohio.

Massage and Rooms

1125½ Eighth Street

7-Mile House

Upper Stockton Road

This is a House of Staples

Tires, Gas, Tubes, Oils and Groceries

Campers' Supplies for Travelers

NICK KADEL, PROPR.

Washington Hotel

YOLO

SOFT DRINKS, CIGARS
Raviola and Chicken Dinners Sundays
Regular Italian Meals Daily
WEEKDAY MEALS 40 CENTS
Sundays, 50c

D. PELLINI, Prop.
Phone 3479-W

Conley's Cash Store

ON THE RIVERSIDE ROAD

Has no new habits and does not believe that its patrons have very new ideas.

We cater to gentlemen for eats and drinks.

Soft Drinks of Every Make
Dancing Every Saturday Night
Sandwiches of All Kinds

MILTON AYERS, Prop.

Phone Main 3672

CALIFORNIA HOTEL

1200 I Street, Sacramento, Cal.
MRS. JOS. DETTLING, Prop.
Excellent Board and Lodging at Reasonable Rates
EVERYTHING FIRST CLASS

THE WHITE HOUSE

Near Baseball Park on 10th Street Car Line

We make a specialty of

HOME PORT REALTY
EST • 1975

Brenda Morazzini
REALTOR®
1929 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, California 95691
Telephone 916.372.5933 Fax-a-mik 916.372.2746

ARROW GLASS
Lic. #461960
"Family owned & operated in West Sacramento for over 18 years"
372-8333
GLASS REPLACEMENT • COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
STORE FRONTS • PATIO, SHOWER & TUB DOORS
SCREENS • ALL TYPES OF MIRRORS
WINDOW HARDWARE IRON WINDOW GUARDS & GATES
372-0264 - CHUCK SANDERS
DOTTY SANDERS
372-6943 - KIT SANDERS
FAX - 372-3904
771 Northport Dr.
West Sacramento, CA 95691

HOME PORT REALTY
916.372.5933
1929 West Capitol Avenue
West Sacramento, California 95691

CREST JEWELERS
Watch and Jewelery Repair
WE BUY SCRAP GOLD
1296 West Capitol — 371-6440

In local government

The West Sacramento **Planning Commission** will meet at 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 6 at 1350 Halyard Dr.

Agenda items include a permit extension for the Russian Baptist Church to use a 684-square foot addition as a classroom and nursery and, and to allow use of nearby parcels for parking; a minor modification for Southport Industrial Park to eliminate the need for a six-foot masonry wall; public hearing regarding elimination of a planned eight-foot wall along the northwest and west property lines of 920 Riverside Parkway; and discussion of new residential subdivisions in the greater Sacramento area and of possible strategies to strengthen the architectural criteria in the Southport Design Guidelines.

The West Sacramento **Economic Development Advisory Commission (EDAC)** will meet at 6 p.m. on July 10 at 1350 Halyard Dr.

Agenda items include consideration of draft Arlington Oaks Sewer Installation Feasibility Study and consideration of draft homebuyer assistance study, as well as a presentation on the reorganization of the redevelopment department.



Police log

June 30, 10 a.m.
On Palomar Ave., a man reported the rear license plate of his car was stolen during the night.

June 30, 11:30 a.m.
On Welland Way, an officer was called regarding some youngsters shooting a pellet gun. The officer counseled and advised the youths.

June 30, 11:45 p.m.
Security guards at a West Capitol Ave. drug store watched as the store manager left the establishment and met another subject outside. The two then entered the store, removed items from its shelves, and put them in a car, making no attempt to pay. The 41-year old Sacramento man managing the store and the other subject were both arrested after police were called.

July 1, 8:40 p.m.
On Canvasback Way, a woman said her son's shotgun was stolen in a burglary. She said the garage door was found off its track.

July 1, 12:38 p.m.
On Virginia Ave., handguns were reported stolen in a burglary.

July 1, 11 p.m.
At an Anna St. church, the windshields of two cars were broken while their owners were attending a wedding.

July 2, 12:44 a.m.
An officer contacted a 31-year old man on West Capitol Ave. The man fled on foot, but was caught after a short chase. The officer located 4.3 grams of methamphetamine he believed the suspect had tried to discard, and also found 2 grams of marijuana in the man's possession.

The man was on searchable probation. He was arrested.

Midseason smiles



West Sacramento Dolphin swim team members Adelina Cooper, Tauna Melendez and Anna Cooper are enjoying the club's season. The Dolphins next meet to compete with Galt's swim club in Galt this Saturday. (Photo by Barry Blacklaw)

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTIFICATION OF WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT IMPLEMENTATION

On August 7, 1998 the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) was signed into law. It will be implemented on July 1, 2000. WIA establishes a new system for providing vocational training to eligible individuals. In this new system all training providers who wish to provide training under WIA must be placed on California's Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL).

Eligibility for listing on the ETPL is a two step process. Initially, the training provider meets criteria listed in WIA and applies to a Local Workforce Investment Board (WIB) for approval. This initial eligibility allows a provider to be listed on the ETPL for up to 18 months. To remain subsequently eligible for listing on the ETPL, a provider must meet performance criteria established by the Governor.

ETPL procedures require notification of training providers in the local area that an application must be submitted to the Local WIB. The WIB reviews the applications and submits approved applications to the State WIB for placement on the ETPL. Every training provider and each of their programs must be approved by the local WIB in order to be submitted to the State and placed on the ETPL.

California has designed this system as an open and ongoing process. Therefore, any training provider may, at any time, submit their applications to the Local WIB for approval. After approval by the Local WIB, the application will be evaluated and forwarded to the State WIB for placement on the ETPL.

To request copies of the application or if you have any questions please contact Doug Gutaw at Yolo County Department of Employment and Social Services at (530) 661-2933 or Douglas.Gutaw@ccm.yolocounty.org.

July 5 12

PUBLIC NOTICES from page 7—

ramento CA 95827; articles of incorporation 199930210009:

Gansborough/FHP Development Company, LLC (incorp. in California), 9848 Business Park Drive, Suite H, Sacramento CA 95827.

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on .

/s/John D. Reynen, Manager
Gainsborough/FHP Development Company, LLC

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of the original document on file in this office. This certification is true as long as there are no alterations to the document, AND as long as the document is sealed with a red seal.

State of California
County of Yolo
Tony Bernhard, County Clerk
Date: JUN 14, 2000
by: /s/G. Tolle, Deputy Clerk
june 28 july 5 12 19
cns1786377

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 00-13186 Loan No. 1850395 TSG No. 480949 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 07/09/1999 UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the real property known as 2973 Denise Court, West Sacramento, CA 95691 Assessor's Parcel Number 045-421-17 will be sold at public auction at the main entrance to the City Hall, 2101 Stone Boulevard, West Sacramento, CA on 07/12/2000, at 1:00 P.M., to the highest bidder, payable at the time of sale, for cash a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Financial Code section 5102 and authorized to do business in California. The sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to satisfy the obligation secured by the Deed of Trust executed by Deeann Dermanew and David A. Dermanew, as trustor. Recorded on 09/12/1999, Instrument 1999-0025096, of Official Records of Yolo, County, California. The total amount secured by said instrument as of the time of initial publication of the notice is $114,443.84, estimated, which includes the total amount of the unpaid balance (including accrued and unpaid interest) and reasonably estimated costs, expenses, and advances at the time of initial publication of this notice. Dated: 06/15/2000 **Premier Trust Deed Services, Inc.**, 3 ADA, Irvine, California 92618. Trustee Sale Information Number (916) 387-7728. **Premier Trust Deed Services, Inc.** By: Heather Blood, Asst. Secretary. ASAP394548 6/21, 6/28, 7/5


Jean Sorensen

"Could you wait a minute, officer? This song is almost over."

Yolobus
371-2877
To Sac. Airport

NIGHTMARE.
For a kid with asthma,
the joys of childhood quickly
become living nightmares.
A playful kitten,
a cuddly puppy,
a bouquet of flowers.
All are potential triggers
for terrifying attacks.
Don't let asthma
rob another childhood.
Call 1.800.LUNG.USA.
AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION®
www.LUNGUSA.org


MARTINEZ BROTHERS GARDENING
Lawn Service and Clean Up
Complete Lawn & Garden Care
Also Cleanups
Phone: 375-0549
Cell Phone: (916) 591-1205

EMERGENCY
J & J PLUMBING
455-9432
PLUMBING, REMODELING, SEWER & DRAINWORK
John Yeargin Home: 371-4151
Cont. Lic. #552529
Ed Yeargin Home: 372-2923

Mary Kay Cosmetics
GWEN OWEN-WAIT
(916) 929-3839
2608 Erin Dr.
Sacramento, CA 95833

Cathy Freitas
Insurance Specialist
Cathy Freitas Insurance Agency
FARMERS
For Your Insurance Needs
155 15th Street
West Sacramento, CA 95691
Bus (916) 371-0500
Fax (916) 371-0903
License #0671339

News-Ledger Directory *of* Local Places *of* Worship

Anna Street Baptist Church
Rev. Norman Pollitt, 371-6560
1400 Anna St., W. Sac.
Sun. 10am Bible Study
11am & 6pm Worship Service
Wed. 7pm Prayer/Bible Study
http://www.hows.net/95605ASBC

Community Lutheran Church
Rev. Marjorie C. Beach, Pastor
920 Drever St., 371-8804
10am Worship/Sun. School
Friendly, family, inclusive language.
The 'come as you are' church.

Seventh Day Adventist Church
H. Eugene Miller, Pastor
334-9315, 2860 Jefferson Blvd., W. Sac.; PO Box 447, W. Sac., 95691;
Sat. Sabbath School 9:30am
Worship 11am. 372-6570

First Baptist Church
Gary Clements, Pastor
Sun. Worship 9:45am
Sun. eve. fellowship 6pm;
Jr/Sr hi. youth Mon. 6:30pm
Home Bible Studies Tues 7pm
Awana (K-6) Wed. 6:30pm; Boy Scouts (11-18) Thurs. 6:30pm;
Men's Prayer Fllwshp Sat. 8am
1511 Delaware Ave. 371-4061

Trinity Presbyterian Church
1500 Park Blvd., 371-5875
Rev. David Huusko, Pastor
Sunday Schedule:
9am, Christian Education
10am, Worship Service
Child care provided.
Join us!

Holy Cross Catholic Church
1321 Anna St., near Todhunter, 371-1211
Rev. Chad Puthoff, SDS
Sat. Vigil 5pm (English)
Sun. 9 (Eng.);
noon & 7 pm (Spanish)
Mon. 8:30am, Tues-Wed. 7am, Thurs. 6:45 (Spanish)
Fri. 8:30am

First Southern Baptist Church
Pastor Michael Root
Sun. School 9:30am
Sun. Worship 11am, 6:30pm
Wed. 6:30pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study
2124 Michigan Blvd.
371-2111

SOUTHPORT COMMUNITY CHURCH
James Allerton, Pastor
Meeting at Westmore Oaks Elem. School, 10:30 a.m.
Children's programs
Weekly small group Bible Study
Great music
www.southportchurch.com
372-7818

If your place of worship is not listed here, call 371-8030 for information.

SAME DAY SERVICE
GLASS WEST
MOBILE GLASS & SCREEN
DAVE BLAKE - OWNER
816 WESTACRE RD., #2
WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95691
(916) 372-9391
1-800-U4 GLASS

FREDDIE'S GOURMET
120-C FIFTEENTH STREET
WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95691
PHONE 371-8945
CLOSED SUNDAY
TAKE OUT FOOD - DELICATESSEN
SPECIALIZING IN BAR-B-Q CHICKEN
SPARE RIBS, HOME MADE SALAD, HOT & COLD
SANDWICHES AND CATERING SERVICE

BARRERA'S PLUMBING
CA Contractor Lic. 478980
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL - FULL PLUMBING SERVICES
Repair - Sewer - Gas - Water - Leaks Under Concrete
Specialists in Repiping Gas and Water Lines
Backflow Preventers • AWWA Cert. #4251
ED BARRERA
Owner
TELEPHONE
(916) 372-0468


JANET FRIESINGER
REALTOR®
E-Mail: JFRIESINGER@EXCITE.COM
916-556-9905 DIRECT LINE
916-341-7839 BUSINESS
916-447-3611 FAX
COLDWELL BANKER
PREMIER OFFICE
730 Alhambra Blvd., Suite 150
Sacramento, CA 95816

Local Scene

Bible camp

Youths between 3 and 15 are invited for a "crash course in faith" at the "Hope and Glory" Bible camp out sponsored by the Community Lutheran Church. Parents are welcome to sleep over as well. Friday, July 7, 5 p.m., to Sat., July 8 at 5 p.m. No cost. Call 371-8804.

Computer classes

The West Sacramento Center of Sacramento City College is offering computer classes for both the novice and experienced user. Classes include beginning computers, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Access, and Windows. Each class meets 15 times beginning July 3. Cost for state residents is only $11. The Center is at 1275 Halyard Dr., Suite 175 in West Sacramento; call 375-5511 for information.

Shakespeare

The Sacramento Shakespeare Festival returns June 30 through Aug. 6 at William Land Park. Opening with "A Midsummer Night's Dream," the festival will continue with "The Tempest" beginning July 7. Parking is available for $1 on 15th Ave.; the box office opens at 6 p.m. on show nights and tickets are $10 general admission and $8 for students, seniors, SARTA members and those with disabilities. Picnics and beverages are permitted; blankets and jackets are encouraged. Ticket sales begin June 14. Call 558-2228 for information.

Swap meet

There will be a swap meet on Sat., Aug. 5, beginning at 8 a.m. at the Bryte V.F.W. post at 1708 Lisbon St. Call 371-9126 or 373-1908 for information; cost to rent a table is $5.

Tennis camp

The city of West Sacrament' Parks Dept. is sponsoring a summer tennis class for youths age 7-17 at the River City High School tennis courts. Three sessions run from 6/26-7/7, 7/24-8/4, and 8/7-8/18. Cost is $25 per session. For information, call 373-5860.

Health award

Yolo County is soliciting nominations for the John Siden Award, presented annually by the Salud Clinic Advisory Board. The award honors a person who has provided outstanding service in a health-related field to residents of West Sacramento or who has contributed significantly to the health and welfare of the West Sacramento community. Nominations may be sent to County of Yolo, Attn: Aaron Burton, 500-B Jefferson Blvd., Suite 190, West Sacramento, CA 95605. Due date is Aug. 31. Call 375-6340 for information.

444 Golf Tourney

This year's 444 Golf Tournament, sponsored by the West Sacramento Foundation, is scheduled for Wed., Aug. 30 at Lighthouse Golf Courswe. The tournament will also include access to a Sacramento River Cats baseball game following the tournament – an activity open to non-golfers as well. Call 641-9158 for information. The Foundation benefits local charities.

Stadium available

Local non-profit groups are invited to apply for use of the new Raley Field stadium, which will be made available to the community for 20 dates between June 17 and March 1. Applications are due by July 31. Call the West Sacramento Parks and Community Services Dept., at 373-5860, for an application and information.

Bible School

First Baptist Church of West Sacramento will sponsor a Vacation Bible School July 12-16 from 9 a.m. to noon. Open to kids age three to eighth grade. The church is located at 1511 Delaware Ave. For information, call 371-4061.

Arts & Crafts

Every second Saturday, June through October, the City of West Sacramento sponsors an Arts and Crafts Fair at River Walk Park at the Grand Staircase from 9 a.m. to noon. Also included is entertainment, food and children's activities. Park on E and F streets between 2nd and 3rd, or along 2nd St. For information, call 373-5819.

Yolo Fair

Signups are beginning for Yolo County Fair entries, as the fair opens Aug. 16. Divisions include photography, baking, clothing, preserved foods, arts, crafts, hobbies and junior livestock, with these divisions closing June 30 in senior and junior divisions. Catalogs are available at the West Sacramento Chamber of Commerce, 1414 Merkley Ave.

Summer reading

Although the Yolo Co. Bookmobile is on hold due to mechanical problems, the library has set up a "deposit site" of 125-150 children's books at each of five county locations for patrons use. Locally, this includes a book site at the Holly Court Apartments, 445 Maple St., West Sacramento (372-0160). Books are available beginning June 13 in both English and Spanish.

Rummage Sale

A community rummage sale is sponsored by the City of West Sacramento every second Saturday through October, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., 1124 West Capitol Ave. (behind Rite Aid). Call 373-5819 for information.

Summer concerts

The City of West Sacramento is sponsoring a "Harmony on the River" concert series on the Grand Staircase at River Walk Park (near the Money Store Building, north of the Tower Bridge. Bring a picnic and lawn chair, or sit on the Grand Staircase. Concerts are at 7 p.m., call 373-5860 for information. Schedule includes the Placer Brass on July 12, Air Force Band of the Calif. National Guard on July 17; Barbershop concert July 19, jazz on Aug. 2, U.S.A.F. Band of the Golden West from Travis AFB on Aug. 23, mariachis and dancers on Sept. 6, and blues on Sept. 13.

Marshall HS reunion

The James Marshall High School Class of 1970 is announcing its 30-year reunion on Sept. 16 at the VFW Hall, 905 Drever St. Festivities include dinner catered by Freddie's Gourmet Deli, three live bands and a D.J. Classmates with recently-changed addresses, or those with information on "lost" classmates, should email okm48@pacbell.net, or write JMHS Class of 1970, P.O. Box 656, West Sacramento, CA 95691.

Vets' monument

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8762 is raising money to acquire two bronze plaques to honor America's veterans of World War II and the Vietnam War. Each will be mounted on River Walk Park. Donations may be earmarked for either the World War II or Vietnam commemoration, and may be sent to VFW Post 8762, P.O. Box 1522, West Sacramento, CA 95691. For information, call 371-7245.

Composting

If you'd like to learn how to compost your yard waste, the City of West Sacramento's recycling division can provide you with a correspondence course. Upon completion of the course and a short quiz, you'll receive a free compost bin and guidebook delivered to your home. Call 373-5893. Also, you may drop off your "green" waste at Tower Court (near the east end of West Capitol Ave.) on July 8, Aug. 12 or Sept. 9. Tree prunings, bushes, grass, dirt, wood and leaves will be accepted between 9 a.m. and noon.

Park Pass

The Yolo Co. Parks Dept. is selling annual day use or camping passes. For information, call (530) 666-8115.

Flowers wanted

The Yolo Co. parks dept. is looking for extra rhizomes or clumps or any iris or daylily beds to beautify county park sites. Dollar donations for purchase of wildflowers are also sought. Call (530) 666-8115.

Bargains Only!
We bring you fabulous bargains through:
■ Closeouts
■ Package Changes
■ Promotional Products
■ Manufacturer's Overruns
GROCERY outlet!
$2.00 OFF! On min. purchase of $20. One coupon per person per day. Excludes alcohol. Expires 7/31/00
3015 W. Capitol Ave.
West Sacto ■ 372-6575

HOME PORT REALTY
NEED TO SELL YOUR HOME?
HOME PORT REALTY
EST • 1975

Brenda Morazzini
REALTOR®
1929 West Capitol Avenue, West Sacramento, California 95691
Telephone 916.372.5933 Facsimile 916.372.2746
Call West Sacramento's leading Real Estate Company!
Call: 916.372.5933

A&S Mini-Storage
STORAGE SPACES TO FIT YOUR BUDGET.
Ask about our specials!
541 Harbor Blvd.
West Sacramento
California 95691
(916) 371-6882
(Just north of West Capitol Ave.)

West Sacramento Center
Sacramento City College
Now offering 3, 6, 9, & 18 week, day and evening classes, 1275 Halyard Drive in West Sacramento. Call for more information.
1275 Halyard Drive
West Sacramento, CA 95691
(916)375-5511
Los Rios Community College District

Rep. Ose announces flood control money plus request for Money Store layoffs' aid

From U.S. Rep. Doug Ose

Congressman Doug Ose (R-Sacramento) announced last week that he had helped secure $5 million for flood control and water projects in Yolo and Solano counties, which are part of his Third District Congressional area. The monies were included in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill, which passed the House on a 407-19 vote.

Included among the projects was $1,776,000 to strengthen five miles of levees on the east side of the Yolo Bypass and south side of the Sacramento Bypass in West Sacramento.

"Once completed, these projects will be essential in improving flood protection for those who live and work in the flood risk areas," Ose was quoted in a press release. "This will be accomplished while enhancing fish and wildlife restoration in the region."

Ose's office also announced that he and Rep. Robert Matsui (D-Sacramento) had joined in asking the U.S. Department of Labor for financial assistance for job training and job placement for the 1,600 Money Store employees expected to be laid off over the next six months. The Money Store is a lending company being disbanded by parent company First Union of North Carolina.

It occupied the distinctive pyramid-shaped building on West Sacramento's waterfront.

New titles at local library

From Elise McCallan
Arthur F. Turner
Branch Library
1212 Merkley Ave.
West Sacramento

The Arthur F. Turner Library has received the following new books:

"The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook," by Joshua Piven and David Borgenicht.

"The New York Times Guide to the Best 1,000 Movies Ever Made," by Vincent Canby and others (library use only).

"Chocolate for a Woman's Soul: 77 Stories to Feed Your Spirit and Warm Your Heart," by Kay Allenbaugh.

"Genome: The Autobiography of a Species in 23 Chapter," by Matt Ridley.

"Decorative Glass: Sandblasting, Copper Foil & Leaded Glass Projects & Patterns," by George W. Shannon and Pat Torlen.

For information on summer reading programs or for library hours, call 375-6465.

Helen's Picnic Place

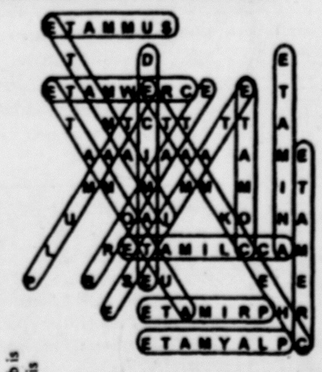
Food with that great homemade taste!
■ Lunch ■ Coffee
■ Espresso ■ Bakery treats
■ Catered lunch meetings & parties
Always served with a smile!
1520 Merkley Ave. ■ 372-6441

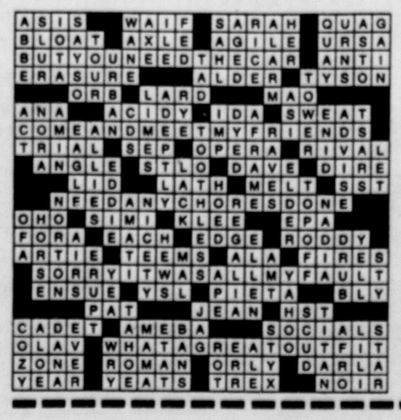
THE Golden Poppy
'Showcasing Local History'
Antiques, collectibles & WANTABE costumes
THANK YOU, WEST SACRAMENTO!
We're celebrating our fifth anniversary June 28 to July 2!
30% OFF STOREWIDE!
Door prizes: River Cats souvenir ears, gift certificates, historic Broderick redwood from 1940 to June 24, 2000.
www.iwantabe1.com
371-0901
324 Third St., West Sacramento
Open Tues-Sun 10-7
4 blocks north of Raley Field & the Money Store, by W. Sac's River Walk Park

Answers to Sports Quiz & Puzzles

1. True. Frank Robinson of Baltimore did it in 1966, with Carl Yastrzemski of Boston accomplishing the feat a year later; 2. The Kansas City Royals did it in 1977; 3. Wide receivers topped the list, with 34 selected; 4. Bill Russell was the top college player while at San Francisco in 1956. Two years later, the Boston Celtics center was the NBA's top player; 5. Coach Bob Hartley of Colorado beat Bowman's Detroit team last year and this year; 6. Joe Louis was the champion for 11 years and eight months; 7. Earl Anthony accomplished the feat in 1975.

© 2000 King Features Synd., Inc.





Differences: 1. Moon is reversed. 2. Glasses are missing. 3. Crab is moved. 4. Towel is longer. 5. Pail handle is missing. 6. Starfish is added.

9	1	2	1	13
9	2	6	9	26
9	5	3	8	25
1	7	2	6	16
28	15	13	24	20

1999-2000 YOLO COUNTY GRAND JURY

FINAL REPORT

A report for the citizens of Yolo County, California

June 30, 2000
Woodland, California

1999-2000 Yolo County Grand Jury Final Report

A Report for the Citizens of Yolo County

P.O. Box 2142, Woodland, California 95776 • (530) 666-8225

June 30, 2000

Honorable Stephen L. Mock
Advisory Judge to the Grand Jury
Superior Court, County of Yolo
725 Court Street
Woodland, CA 95695

Dear Judge Mock:

It is the duty of the Grand Jury to present to you, and to the citizens of Yolo County, the *1999-2000 Yolo County Grand Jury Final Report.* The Grand Jury was comprised of citizens from Davis, West Sacramento, Woodland, Yolo and Zamora.

We received many inquiries asking for guidance in pursuing action against other employees of the County, cities, special districts, agencies or commissions, regarding real or perceived problems. Several formal citizens complaints were also received. Some of the complaints were accepted for formal review and others were returned for additional information or otherwise deemed inappropriate with the material submitted. In all of the cases that were not accepted for further review, the citizens were notified as to why they were rejected.

We also invited many of the elected County Officials to brief the entire Grand Jury on their duties to get a better feel for their services and how we might be able to help them in the future.

We moved our office again, hopefully this time to a permanent site near the courts. All of our materials are now in one place and we have considerably more room and the needed privacy. Some minor problems still have to be worked out.

We thank the Courts for having selected us to serve on the Grand Jury and for the help you and your staff afforded us. We thank the employers who permitted their people the time off to serve and we thank the many citizens interviewed for their insights, help and time. Nine of our members have graciously volunteered to serve a second term on the 2000-2001 Grand Jury. This will make the next body even more effective right from the start. It has been very rewarding, these last two years, serving as a juror, observing and working with our jurors from such diverse backgrounds but all coming together for the common good of our County's people.

Sincerely,

DR Ojakangas

Dennis R. Ojakangas

What Is the Grand Jury?

The California Constitution requires each county to appoint a Grand Jury. Grand Juries guard the public interest and provide citizens with a means to participate in oversight of local government. The Yolo County Superior/Municipal Court appoints 19 grand jurors each year. The Yolo County Grand Jury is an official body of the Court and is an independent authority, not answerable to administrators or the Board of Supervisors.

The California Grand Jury process was established by statute in 1880. Unlike Grand Juries in other states, a California Grand Jury's primary responsibility is to promote honesty and efficiency in government by reviewing the operations and performance of county government, city governments, school districts and special districts. Based on these reviews, the Grand Jury issues a final report that may recommend changes in the way government conducts its business. Copies are distributed to public officials, county libraries and the news media. The Board of Supervisors or the governing body of each government agency reviewed must respond to the Grand Jury findings and recommendations within 90 days after publication of the final report.

Another Grand Jury responsibility is to consider complaints submitted by private citizens, local government officials or government employees. Complaints must be in writing and should include any supporting evidence available. Grand jurors are sworn to secrecy and, except in rare circumstances, records of their meetings may not be subpoenaed. This secrecy ensures confidentiality of the complainant and any testimony offered to the Grand Jury during its investigations. The Grand Jury exercises its own discretion on whether to conduct an investigation or to report its findings on citizen complaints.

A third responsibility of the Grand Jury is to consider criminal indictments based on evidence presented by the District Attorney. The Grand Jury does not pass upon the guilt or innocence of the accused. The Grand Jury also investigates charges of malfeasance (wrongdoing) or misfeasance (a lawful act performed in an unlawful manner) by public officials.

To be eligible for the Grand Jury, a citizen must:

- be at least 18 years of age;
- reside in the county for at least one year before selection;
- exhibit ordinary intelligence and good character;
- possess a working knowledge of the English language; and
- not have served on the Grand Jury within one year, although the Court may choose to hold over up to ten jurors to ease transition.

Following a screening process by the Court, grand jurors are selected by lottery. If you are interested in becoming a grand juror, submit your name to the Jury Commissioner, 725 Court Street, Room 303, Woodland, California, 95695, or telephone (530) 666-8600.

June 30, 2000

The 1999-2000 Yolo County Grand Jury resolves that the attached report is adopted as the Final Report of the 1999-2000 Yolo County Grand Jury.

Signed:

Roger Brooks, Woodland
Patricia M. Brown, Woodland
Daniel J. Clayton, West Sacramento
Loran Dockter, Woodland
Valente F. Dolcini, Davis
Sham S. Goyal, Davis
James B. Guiles, Woodland
Barbara J. Hernandez, West Sacramento
Arden Hill, West Sacramento ***(Sgt-at-Arms)***
Robert L. Mansfield, Davis
Jose B. Martinez, Davis
Joe V. Meyer, West Sacramento
Mary Lou Nevis, Woodland ***(Treasurer)***
Dennis R. Ojakangas, Davis ***(Foreman)***
Charla Parker, Zamora
Elmer Roelling, Woodland ***(Foreman-Pro-Tempore)***
Mary Roussas, Davis
Esther Vasquez, Yolo ***(Secretary)***
John Wilson, Davis

Public Notice

The findings in this document report the conclusions reached by the Grand Jury. Although all the findings are based on evidence, they are the product of the Grand Jury's independent judgment; some findings are the opinion of the Grand Jury rather than indisputable statements of fact.

The California Penal Code[1] specifies the duty, timeframe and format for responding to the Grand Jury reports. The governing board of the public agency, which is the subject of the report, must respond within 90 days of the date the Grand Jury submits its report to the Court. Other named respondents must comment within 60 days. Respondents must state whether or not they agree with each finding. If the responding person or entity disagrees with a Grand Jury finding, the respondent is required to explain the reason(s) for disputing the finding. In responding to each Grand Jury recommendation, the person or entity must report a summary regarding the implemented action, the timeframe for implementation, or an explanation if the recommendation will not be implemented or requires further analysis. If the recommendation requires further analysis, the respondent must identify the scope and parameters of the analysis and a timeframe for completion, not to exceed six months after publication of the report.

[1]Sections 933 and 933.5

Table of Contents

Studies 3-8

Davis Police Department
West Sacramento Police Department
Winters Police Department
Woodland Police Department
Yolo County Sheriff's Department
The Yolo County Juvenile Hall
Yolo County Y2K Strategy Plan

Complaints 8-10

Child Protective Services
Esparto Community Services District (ECSD)
Esparto Unified School District (EUSD)

Tours 11-12

Yolo County Animal Shelter
Martins' Achievement Place
Monroe Detention Center and the Leinberger Center
Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District
Yolo County Alcohol and Drug Services
Yolo County Coroner's Office and Morgue

Addendum 12

Studies

Davis Police Department

BACKGROUND

Members of the Yolo County Grand Jury met with members of the Davis Police Department as part of the Grand Jury's annual oversight function.

FINDINGS

1. It appears that the Davis Police Department is currently functioning more smoothly and with higher morale in the workforce relative to a few years ago.
2. It appears that a detailed and clear-cut mission statement needs to be developed within the Davis Police Department.
3. The Davis Police Department deserves to be commended for their emphasis on a community service approach.
4. The new I-80 under-crossing bicycle tunnel appears to be highly controversial and raises some serious safety and law-enforcement concerns.
5. Due to the decision to shutdown the current Davis firing range located on Pole Line Road, serious questions and concerns have arisen about the availability of firearms training facilities relative to the actual needs as mandated by law. Lack of proper firearms training may potentially have serious ramifications for law enforcement in the City of Davis.
6. It appears that some of the parking enforcement rules, laws, or practices, as applied to the privately owned lots (e.g., shopping plaza lots), are not practical and hence provide high probabilities of unfairness to motorists.
7. There appears to be a lack of any formal training of sworn officers for racial tolerance.
8. The Davis Police Department has not yet switched to the new 800 MHz frequency as mandated by the Federal Communications Commission (although not in violation at this time).

RECOMMENDATIONS

00-01 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that the Davis Police Department develop a clear-cut mission statement as soon as possible. (Finding #2).

(STUDIES: Davis Police Department–continued on next page)

00-02 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that the Davis City Council conduct a study of the safety issues related to the new I-80 bicycle undercrossing and determine and meet the law-enforcement needs before a serious incident occurs. (Finding #4)

00-03 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that in order to achieve better racial harmony in the community and to deal with race related matters more effectively, the Davis Police Department provide formal and periodic training to their sworn officers for racial tolerance and other cultural awareness aspects. (Finding #7)

00-04 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that the Davis City Council seriously study the issues relating to proper fire-arms training needs and facilities for its police force and make sure that the police force does not fall behind in fire-arms training and meets or exceeds standards mandated by law. (Finding #5)

00-05 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that the Davis City Council study the practicality and fairness issues as related to parking enforcement in privately owned lots (especially in shopping plaza lots) and make sure that the ordinances are enforceable in a fair and just manner. (Finding #6).

00-06 The Yolo County Grand Jury believes that the entire Yolo County will benefit when the Davis Police Department adopts the new 800 MHz communication frequency. (Finding #8)

RESPONDENTS

Davis City Council
Davis City Manager
Davis Chief of Police

West Sacramento Police Department

BACKGROUND

Members of the Yolo County Grand Jury met with members of the West Sacramento Police Department as part of the Grand Jury's annual oversight function.

FINDINGS

1. The West Sacramento Police Department appears to be functioning properly, appropriately, smoothly, and harmoniously. The department seems to have a full grasp and control on the law-enforcement situation in their city.
2. It appears that the West Sacramento Police Department's morale and harmony has improved significantly, under the new Chief of Police.
3. The West Sacramento Police Department appears to be fully aware and familiar with the additional law-enforcement needs and problems that would arise as a result of the baseball park that is currently under construction.
4. The West Sacramento Police Department has a done a good job of including racial minorities in their force in order to maintain a good rapport with various racial minorities in their community.
5. The West Sacramento Police Department has done a very good job of public relations.
6. The West Sacramento Police Department allows their officers to take the patrol cars home.

RECOMMENDATIONS

None

RESPONDENTS

West Sacramento City Council
West Sacramento City Manager
West Sacramento Chief of Police

Winters Police Department

BACKGROUND

Members of the Yolo County Grand Jury met with members of the Winters Police Department as part of the Grand Jury's annual oversight function.

FINDINGS

1. It appears that the Winters Police Department is currently operating with fewer sworn officers than necessary. The department is still operating with the same number of sworn officers as when the city population was 2,500, relative to the current population of 5,500 or more.
2. The Winters Police Department is to be commended for doing an outstanding job considering they are seriously understaffed and under-equipped.
3. Operation of Winters Police Department with fewer officers is jeopardizing the safety of both citizens as well as sworn officers.
4. Winters Police Department lacks training and necessary equipment to collect and preserve evidence that may be effectively used in court trials.
5. Since the Winters Police Department has the lowest pay scales and retirement benefits in the county, the Winters Police Department has an exceptionally difficult time recruiting sworn officers for its force.
6. The Winters Police Department has not yet switched to the new 800 MHz frequency as mandated by the Federal Communications Commission (although not in violation at this time).

RECOMMENDATIONS

00-07 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that the Winters City Council and the Winters City Manager's office should study the situation of its police force and find ways to increase the number of sworn officers. (Finding #1, 3 and 4)

00-08 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that the Winters City Council should seriously study the pay scales and the benefits package for its sworn officers. It is further recommended that the pay scales and benefits be brought up to a comparable level with other law enforcement agencies in Yolo County. (Finding #5)

00-09 The Yolo County Grand Jury believes that all of Yolo county will benefit when the new 800 MHz communication frequency is adopted by the Winters Police Department. (Finding #6)

RESPONDENTS

Winters City Council
Winters City Manager
Winters Chief of Police

Woodland Police Department

BACKGROUND

Members of the Yolo County Grand Jury met with members of the Woodland Police Department as part of the Grand Jury's annual oversight function.

FINDINGS

1. After apparent employee dissatisfaction of several years in the past, the Woodland Police Department now appears to be improving in terms of morale, enthusiasm, effectiveness, and loyalty.
2. The Woodland Police Department largely

appears to be functioning smoothly.
3. After three years of higher than normal personnel turnover, it appears to have been significantly reduced.
4. There appears to be a lack of any formal training of sworn officers for racial tolerance.
5. The Woodland Police Department has not yet switched to the new 800 MHz frequency as mandated by the Federal Communications Commission (although not in violation at this time).

RECOMMENDATIONS

00-10 The Yolo County Grand Jury recommends that in order to achieve a better racial harmony in the community and to deal with race related matters more effectively, the Woodland Police Department provide formal and periodic training to their sworn officers for racial tolerance and other cultural awareness aspects. (Finding #4)

00-11 The Yolo County Grand Jury believes that all of Yolo County will benefit when the Woodland Police Department adopts the new 800 MHz communication frequency. (Finding #5)

RESPONDENTS

Woodland City Council
Woodland City Manager
Woodland Chief of Police

Yolo County Sheriff's Department

BACKGROUND

Members of the Yolo County Grand Jury met with Yolo County Sheriff as part of the Grand Jury's annual oversight function.

FINDINGS

1. It appears that the department's morale has improved significantly, under the new Sheriff.
2. Higher than normal turnover of sworn personnel is reported consistently which appears mainly due to lower pay scales than even the surrounding counties and cities. Due to higher turnover rates, Yolo County seems to have become a training ground of law enforcement officers for other jurisdictions.
3. The level of satisfaction appears to be higher in the Coroner's Department relative to Sheriff's Department.
4. The Correctional Officers are concerned about the forthcoming administrative changes that the sworn deputies will be taken out of the detention facility and put on the patrol and that they would have to fill the role of deputies inside the facility without any commensurate pay and benefits. The Correctional Officers do not have Safety Retirement either. This situation could result in the departure of as many as 15 Correctional Officers from the Monroe Detention facility.
5. The Sheriff's Department almost always has difficulty in filling the vacant deputy positions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

00-12 The Grand Jury recommends that the County Administrator's office conduct an independent study to determine the root-cause of higher than normal turnover of sworn officers, and then, in cooperation with the Sheriff's Department, find ways to remedy the situation. (Finding number 2 & 5).

00-13 The Sheriff's Department evaluate the potential of moving the sworn officers out of the Monroe Detention Center into the County at large, including the Deputies and the Correctional Officers. In the event the Correctional Officers are asked to take over the Officer's functions inside the detention facility, we recommend that they receive additional training and benefits including safety retirement. (Finding number 4).

RESPONDENTS

Yolo County Sheriff's Department
Yolo County Administrator's Office

The Yolo County Juvenile Hall

BACKGROUND

On September 21, 1999, members of the Grand Jury toured the Juvenile Hall Facility located at 238 West Beamer St. in Woodland, California. The Juvenile Hall Director conducted the tour and provided information about the history, function and services provided at the Juvenile Hall Facility.

The 1998-1999 Grand Jury recommended that the 1999-2000 Grand Jury "fully investigate" the Yolo County Juvenile Hall. Several issues immediately surfaced that the Grand Jury felt needed to be brought to the attention of the County Administration and the citizens of Yolo County.

FINDINGS

"To protect the public from the delinquent acts of minors by providing for the safe and secure reception and temporary care of minors in detention pursuant to provisions of the California Juvenile Court Law." –*Mission Statement of the Juvenile Hall*

"We seek diverse individuals to join and strengthen our organization and we strive to create a work environment that nurtures and encourages good people to remain a part of our Yolo County team." –*Yolo County Values*

1. **The basic care and needs of the wards are being provided.**

   A. Medical Needs

   There is a Spartan medical examination room at the facility where medical services are provided. More demanding medical services are conducted outside the facility. Each ward receives a medical examination prior to admittance to the facility.

   B. Food Services

   Three meals a day are served by a staff person to small groups of wards. The meals are prepared at the Monroe Detention Center and then transported to the hall. There is a small kitchen and dining room where the meals can be kept warm and consumed in a social setting. Three meals a day are served at two sittings based on group classification.

   C. Education

   The classroom at the facility appears to be up to date and has a setting that resembles any normal classroom. Each ward is given six hours of schooling, five days a week There is a small library that is accessible to the students. One difficulty is that a teacher must attempt to teach multiple age groups and different grade levels simultaneously. We question whether the quality of education provided is sufficient for the wards to maintain their academic standing upon readmission into the normal school system.

   D. Physical Activities and Recreation

   Three hours of recreation are provided for on a daily basis. On weekends and holidays the wards have five hours of recreational time. There is an indoor recreation room with activities including arts and crafts as well other indoor activities. One hour is allotted each day for outdoor activities.

(STUDIES: The Yolo County Juvenile Hall –continued on next page)

E. Visitation
Parents/Guardians are allowed to visit on Thursdays and Sundays at scheduled times in a secure and observable area near the lobby. Parents and guardians are given time to visit the ward after the initial booking procedure.

F. Religious and Counseling Services
Wards can voluntarily attend religious services on Sundays that are given by members of the local clergy. A ward or parent/guardian may also request a meeting with a member of the clergy through the Juvenile Hall staff.

There is psychiatric counseling available as part of the medical care given to the wards. The court may also order psychiatric counseling on an as needed basis. Various counseling services and support services such as Narcotics Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous are available.

2. The safety and security of the wards, staff and community is at risk.

On February 2, 1994, nine detainees overpowered the staff and escaped into the community in a well-documented event. Since that time, measures have been taken to deter this from happening again. However, there still appear to be major deficiencies in security at the facility that could have serious consequences to the wards, staff and community.

These deficiencies appear to be legion and can be delineated as follows: entry security, surveillance cameras, electronic locks, and maintenance.

A. Entry Security
There is no metal detector positioned at the entryway into the facility. There is a "wand" available, but due to staffing constraints, no one is available to operate it. There is almost an "honor" system that anyone entering will leave any metal objects or weapons in the lock boxes located outside the entry door. It is apparent that anyone desiring to enter the facility with a concealed weapon would easily be able to do so.

An intercom system allows the person in the "control room" to communicate with anyone desiring to enter the facility.

B. Surveillance Cameras
Several surveillance cameras are badly positioned and in one critical area, the kitchen and dining hall, there is no camera at all. Due to the linear configuration of the facility, there are several areas that cannot be viewed. In the "control room," one monitor was non-functional. It was noted that the person in the control room was also preparing reports and answering phones, which effectively removed their attention from observing the wards. We also question the accessibility to viewing the surveillance monitors from the visitation area and the lobby.

C. Electronic Locks
The electronic locks suffer from periods of non-operation and at the time of our visit, were not Y2K compliant. This could pose a serious problem in the event of an emergency.

D. Maintenance
It was noted that maintenance requests take an inordinately long period of time before completion. There appeared to be no viable prioritizing or tracking mechanism for repair requests at the facility. Maintenance requests are phoned in to the general services department and logged down as to date and time requested.

3. Staffing, employee morale, and organization is deficient.

The Grand Jury was greatly dismayed at the low level of employee morale and high rate of staff turnover at the Juvenile Hall Facility. We are similarity concerned over real and perceived differences between the adult probation officers and the juvenile group supervisors from within the probation department.

A. Proper Staffing
Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations mandates that the Juvenile Hall Facility must staff at a ratio of one staff person for every ten wards. There are two distinct line functions below the Facility Director. One is the "Group Supervisor", who directly observes and interacts with the wards. The other is the "Supervising Group Supervisor", who is responsible for administration and management of the other supervisors. During the course of our investigation is was discovered that the "Supervising Group Supervisor" was also expected to supervise the wards along with their other functions in order for the facility to comply with Title 15. The increased responsibilities of this position for a fractional offset in pay has made this position less than desirable.

There are three eight-hour shifts each day. At the time of our investigation, there were two shifts (day and relief), where there were no supervisors assigned due to the inability to fill these positions. It is not unusual to find personnel working two shifts per day (16 hours) because of unfilled supervisory positions. At the time of our investigation, there were two vacant supervisor positions; one has been open since March 3, 1999, and the other due to the present supervisor becoming the temporary Facility Director.

B. Salary Structure, Disparity within the Probation Department
Increasing levels of responsibility within the Juvenile Hall are not met with commensurate increases in salary, making it difficult for Juvenile Hall Group Supervisors to accept promotions to the next level. In the administrative end, the Supervising Group Supervisor is paid approximately 9% more than the Group Supervisor II. With the extra 5% more a Group Supervisor can earn for working "out of class", this cuts the differential to only 4%. This is hardly an incentive to assume the additional responsibilities.

Entry level positions at the Juvenile Hall Facility begin at approximately $1941 per month, which is over $500 per month less than the entry-level position as an Adult Probation Officer. This salary disparity continues through the more advanced positions. In comparable supervisory positions the gap grows to over $1100 per month. We felt this wage disparity led to the perception of the Juvenile Hall Group Supervisor as a "lower class" than an Adult Probation Officer.

C. Salary Structure, Disparity with Neighboring Counties and Related Law Enforcement Positions
In 1996, a study was done to adjust the base pay for the probation employees to within ten percent of an accumulated group of neighboring counties base pay levels. There is some controversy as to the accuracy of this study in relation to what constituted a comparable position. Recently, Sacramento County announced a pay raise of between fifteen to twenty percent for their probation officers that already earned better than ten percent more than similar jobs in Yolo County. Also thrown in was a fifteen hundred-dollar bonus. This type of financial incentive to leave Yolo County is in

many cases just too great to ignore.

To qualify for a probation department position, a person must pass a background check and have 60 college units (Associate of Arts Degree). By contrast, the Sheriff's Department pays more ($2480, starting wage for Deputy Sheriff) and only requires a minimum high school diploma and POST training.

It is evident that a job in the Juvenile Hall branch of the probation department is seen primarily as a starting point to accumulate the experience and training necessary to move to another law enforcement career, either within Yolo County or elsewhere, which offers superior financial and job related rewards. The lack of promotional opportunities within the department also adds to lower staff morale.

D. Safety Retirement

One of the mainstays of any viable career is the retirement benefits accorded to any employee. The current contractual guidelines specify that employees will pay their own share of their retirement to the California Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) for the first five years of employment. After that time, the county will pay both the county's and the employee's contribution to PERS. Many counties pay both contributions when an employee begins employment.

Another feature of most law enforcement and many probation departments is "safety retirement" or a better retirement benefit package that encourages careers in law enforcement. The Yolo County Probation Department employees do not have this benefit. Many other probation departments within the state share this benefit with their law enforcement and correctional counterparts. It is to be noted that all Juvenile Hall Supervisors and Adult Probation Officers are classified as peace officers under Section 830.5 of the California Penal Code.

E. Employee Turnover

Better than seventy-five percent of the staff at the Juvenile Facility are at entry level. Only two persons have better than five years experience. One person has three years with the remainder having less than two years experience. Most employees leave before acquiring two years. There is a virtually constant search to keep staff positions filled. This constant turnover erodes any semblance of a "team" atmosphere.

F. Training

All employees must pass a state mandated training program. Each staff member receives State mandated training, starting with pre-hire training, going on to 180 hours of training the first year and then 40 hours of legal and pain compliance training. The State pays for the hours of formal training.

Once the new employee begins, the Supervising Group Supervisor must then provide "on the job" training. The constant training due to high turnover detracts from the supervisor's ability to perform other functions. This leads in many cases to excessive overtime and inadequate training. Inconsistent or inadequate training has the potential for increased risk to the safety of the employees or the wards.

G. Volunteer Program

A volunteer program that allows screened volunteers to interact with the wards is in place and is considered quite beneficial. There is the possibility of expansion of this program if more qualified volunteers can be found. These people who willingly give of their time are to be commended.

4. The current facility is old, out-dated, and overcrowded

The original Juvenile Hall was built in the 1960s and expanded in 1976-77 to what it is today.

Originally there were twelve bed spaces; there are now thirty beds in the facility and twenty-two sleeping rooms. Additional beds are set up in a "dorm" setting. The facility is built in a linear fashion that makes management of the facility difficult. There are many blind spots and corners.

At the time of our visit there were forty wards although the building was built to house only thirty. Males and females are kept separated with the exceptions of mealtime and during school. The overcrowding was especially noticeable in the "dorm" area.

The average headcount continues to grow year after year as the population increases. Over the last few years the average has grown from the low thirties to the high thirties and beyond. Severe overcrowding could be handled by sending overflow wards to other nearby counties facilities with which Yolo County has reciprocal aid agreements, but this is expensive and rarely done. Usually when extra wards are brought in to the facility, extra help has to be added on to deal with the already crowded situation. Upwards of fifty wards have been housed at a given time.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The citizens of Yolo County must be aware that there is a serious problem at our Juvenile Hall. The problem is apathy, not by the dedicated men and women who work there or volunteer their time, but rather by those County and Probation administrative officials whose responsibility it is to provide a safe, secure and satisfying work environment for the employees and a safe, secure and corrective environment for the wards.

While we look to the future at the possibility of a new Juvenile Hall, we must first deal with the problems that exist at the current facility before we can move forward.

The obvious categories for our recommendations are short, intermediate and long term solutions:

00-14 Short Term

The easiest and quickest solutions involve the facility itself. All safety and security issues must be remedied at once.

A. All monitors fixed and on line.

B. All surveillance cameras working and pointed in relevant areas, new cameras installed where needed.

C. All locks in working order with downtime held to a minimum.

D. A metal detector installed at the main entrance.

E. The Director of the Juvenile Facility should be given authority (up to a pre-determined monetary limit) to maintain the integrity of any physical security related items without having to go through the normal bureaucratic channels.

00-15 Intermediate Term

Those problems admitting an intermediate fix involve the hiring and training of adequate staff.

A. Pay scales need to be investigated and adjusted to more accurately reflect the going rate with comparable positions in neighboring counties. Comparisons could also be made between positions of similar responsibility in the juvenile and the adult sections of the probation department.

B. Safety retirement should be offered

(STUDIES: The Yolo County Juvenile Hall –continued on next page)

in some form to all probation department employees carrying the peace officer classification.

C. A more detailed method of prioritizing and tracking repairs should be delineated and initialized.

00-16 Long Term

A. A new juvenile hall must be given serious consideration and study, this process is already underway. The present hall is woefully inadequate both from the standpoint of size and supervision. We want to point out that the safety, security and morale issues at the present facility must take priority over the consideration for a new facility.

RESPONDENTS

Yolo County Board of Supervisors
Yolo County Probation Department

Yolo County Y2K Strategy Plan

BACKGROUND

The Yolo County Grand Jury decided to monitor the activities of the various Yolo County Departments to assure that there would be few problems with the highly touted Y2K issues. The Grand Jury began to monitor the Y2K issues in the summer of 1999 and continued through the last critical time period of February 29, 2000.

FINDINGS

The Year 2000 issue began as a problem that would possibly occur on or before January 1, 2000, because most computers and programs would not recognize the "00" date. A lot of early forecasts called for widespread power outages, and other problems including a paralyzing shutdown of the computer world. Forecasters were predicting the most serious of all situations and a total downfall of the economy, both private and governmental. As the year 2000 continued to come closer, the hype of the situation grew.

The officials of Yolo County looked at the problem and had to decide the best solution to make sure the County, and all its departments, would be Y2K compliant when the clock turned on January 1, 2000. The County Administrative Office directed that a strategy be planned with the Information Technology Division (ITD) leading the way for the rest of the departments. The solutions came to dividing the problem into manageable parts and assigning responsibility to the departments to have a Y2K plan, and the ITD would provide the tools and assistance to accomplish this task. Reports of their accomplishments would be done monthly and meetings would take place to monitor their progress. The head of each department would confirm their status. An Internet site was set up to allow any interested parties the chance to view what was proceeding. Meetings were held with other governmental bodies within the counties to share ideas and compare notes.

The problem of the Y2K issue was divided into three areas: applications maintained by Central Information Technology, those maintained by vendors, and those maintained by departments along with the commercial type applications. Desktop computer hardware had to be looked at along with network devices and operating systems. Embedded chips and the global Y2K issues also had to be resolved. On a monthly basis, progress on these areas was noted by each department and was shown on a graph, for a comparison with the other departments. Each department was to resolve a Business Continuity & Contingency Plan that would allow the department to operate if the computer world shut down.

Yolo County government consists of 23 departments, along with 11 sub-units, making a total of 34 different units. The reports that kept us informed showed great improvement from month to month. By October 15th, a report was given as to the status of the efforts. All application systems were either Y2K compliant, or there was a way to work around the application, or the application was not supporting a critical function. All PC desktops and software supporting critical functions were Y2K compliant, and all communication devices supporting critical functions were now Y2K compliant. All of the departments with Mission Critical functions or Department Critical Business support functions had their Business Continuity & Contingency Plans for those critical functions. Refinements and testing of all the areas would continue.

The Grand Jury also looked into the preparedness of the 911 emergency system. The whole system could go mobile, with generators, and still carry on all functions as normal. The 911 system, along with the various police agencies, had emergency contingency plans that would function during any event. Meetings and drills took place to assure the full preparedness of these agencies.

As January 1, 2000 approached, the Grand Jury felt assured that all would pass with a minimum of problems. A private firm was hired by the County to give a second opinion on the validity of the preparedness of the departments. A green light was given and the wait for New Year's Day was on.

On New Year's Eve, the buildings were staffed and computers were monitored when the clocks changed. Much to the relief of all concerned, nothing happened and the staffers went home early to celebrate the arrival of the New Year. On February 2nd, a few minor problems occurred, but were resolved quickly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

00-17 The Grand Jury would like to commend all the people involved in resolving the Y2K issue. Our special commendation goes to the Information Technology Division for providing leadership and direction to the departments. It was a job well done by many people, and should provide compliance for many years to come.

RESPONDENTS

Yolo County Board of Supervisors

Complaints

Child Protective Services

BACKGROUND

A citizen's complaint was received regarding the way the Department of Child and Protective Services places children in foster homes and monitors their care while in foster care.

FINDINGS

Members of the Grand Jury interviewed the Deputy Director of the department to obtain an overview of the department and its protocols. Following that interview, a review was conducted of the *Foster Family Homes Policy and Procedure Manual* (Title 22, Division 6, Chapter 7.5) along with the report of the Little Hoover Commission, *Now in Our Hands: Caring for California's Abused and neglected Children*, released August 1999. Following that review, a list of questions was submitted to the Deputy Director for response followed by another in-person interview with members of the Grand Jury.

1. The Grand Jury was unable to document that the department is consistently following the guidelines as outlined in the reviewed documents.
2. The Deputy Director was unable to produce written protocols which outlined an

objective, step-by step protocol that case workers utilize to decide upon the level of placement that a child needs and the options for placement that might include kin-care.

3. The Deputy Director reported that case workers exceed the case load ratios on a regular basis due to an acute shortage of qualified and experienced case workers, but was unable to report that there is a plan in place in Yolo County to address that shortage.
4. The Deputy Director reported that it takes almost a year for a new employee to become fully functional in the department, but was unable to produce a comprehensive plan to shorten that orientation time.

RECOMMENDATIONS

00-18 The Director should verify that there are written protocols and objective assessment instruments in place to guide the placement decisions of the caseworkers according to accepted standards.

00-19 The Director should review the written protocols for the department periodically to assure that the department is in compliance with accepted standards.

00-20 The Director should enlist the services of the Human Resources Department and the County Administrator's Office to develop a comprehensive recruitment and retention plan. This should include a formal employee orientation and training program that will fast track the new staff to be fully functional within 90 days of hire.

RESPONDENTS

The Department of Child and Protective Services

Yolo County Administrator's Office

Esparto Community Services District (ECSD)

BACKGROUND

In response to a citizen complaint, the Grand Jury investigated allegations of violations of the Brown Act open meetings requirements[1]. The Grand Jury interviewed ECSD board members, staff, and private citizens. The Grand Jury also reviewed minutes (both written summaries and audio tape recordings), agendas, correspondence, and the ECSD by-laws.

The ECSD is an independent special district. It provides policy oversight to the unincorporated Esparto community for water, sewage treatment, and street lighting. The ECSD consists of five elected members, who serve four-year terms.

The California Ralph M. Brown Act, enacted in 1953 (Act)[2], requires that meetings of local government agencies, such as the ECSD, be open to the public. Meetings, as defined in the Act, albeit slippery, includes "any congregation of a majority of the members of a legislative body ... to hear, discuss, or deliberate upon any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body" (54952.2.a). The Act prohibits any "use of direct communication" or "technological devices" by a majority "to ***develop a collective concurrence as to action to be taken*** on an item" by the legislative body (54952.2.b). (Emphasis added) The use of a telephone, email, and facsimile devices used to develop such a collective concurrence fall within the parameters of the Act. Finally, "no legislative body shall take action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final" (54953.c).

Except for limited circumstances, e.g., emergency, the Act prohibits "action or discussion" at public board meetings on items unless those items appear on the posted agenda for the meeting. (54954.2.a).

FINDINGS

1. The present ECSD board, which includes two new members[3] elected in November 1999, has violated the Brown Act on at least one specific occasion by discussing and taking action on an item not appearing on the posted agenda for the meeting in question[4]. From comments received by the Grand Jury it appears that there is concern with members' frequent efforts to deliberate on matters outside the published agenda.
2. There does not appear to be a consistent training policy or efforts to assure board members receive Brown Act initial or refresher training.
3. Although the Grand Jury was unable to identify specific instances of violations for illegal "meetings" between board members, there appears to be a general recognition and admission by the members that in fact those "meetings" for the purpose by a majority ***"to develop a collective concurrence as to action to be taken*** **on an item"** has occurred with some frequency.

RECOMMENDATIONS

00-21 The ECSD institute a formal policy of initial and annual refresher training on the requirements of the Brown Act for its board members. [Findings 1, 2, & 3]

00-22 Coordinate with other local agencies such as County Counsel, District Attorney, or other local agencies that provide Brown Act training allowing ECSD members to participate in that training. The training should be focused on the Brown Act and not merely an aside, which typically is the case with larger conferences focusing on more global statewide issues. [Findings 1, 2, & 3]

00-23 Take personal responsibility to assure that the public's business is conducted in public as required by law. The intent of the Brown Act is that actions taken by public bodies, such as the ECSD, be taken openly and their deliberations be conducted openly[5]. [Findings 1, 2, & 3]

00-24 Review Findings[5]and Recommendations[6] from the 1997-1998 Yolo County Grand Jury and institute that Report's Recommendations immediately.

00-25 The 2000-2001 Grand Jury continues to monitor the ECSD.

RESPONDENTS

Esparto Community Services District: All Findings and Recommendations

Yolo County Counsel: Recommendation 00-22

Yolo County District Attorney: Finding 1 and Recommendation 00-22

---

[1] ECSD was previously investigated by the 1997-1998 Yolo County Grand Jury for Brown Act violations. (See 1997-1998 Report with extensive Findings and Recommendations.)

[2] Government Code Section 54950 et seq. All references to Government Code unless otherwise noted.

[3] "Any person elected to serve ... who has not yet assumed the duties of office shall conform his or her conduct to the requirements of" The Brown Act (54952.1).

[4] ECSD initiated, discussed, and took action to grant staff paid holiday day off on election days. One citizen was concerned that, because the "action to grant time off" was improper under the Act, the monies to pay for this "illegally" granted time off was a misappropriation of ECSD funds.

[5] We remind the ECSD board of the Brown Act's legislative intent: "The people of this State do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created."

[6] Particularly Findings: 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 11.

[7] Particularly Recommendations: 98-25 through 98-29, inclusive, and 98-34.

(COMPLAINTS– continued on next page)

Esparto Unified School District (EUSD)

BACKGROUND

In response to a citizen complaint, the Grand Jury investigated allegations of violations of the Brown Act open meetings requirements. The Grand Jury interviewed EUSD board members, staff, and private citizens. The Grand Jury also reviewed minutes, agendas, correspondence, and the EUSD by-laws.

The EUSD is an independent district. It provides policy oversight to the Esparto local public schools, and is responsible for the supervision of the school district's superintendent and various school principals serving the Esparto community. The EUSD consists of five elected members, who serve four-year terms. After an election, and at the beginning of each calendar year, the EUSD board conducts a reorganization meeting to, among other administrative matters, nominate and elect its officers for a one-year term. The two principle officers are its president and clerk (equivalent to vice-president).

The California Ralph M. Brown Act, enacted in 1953 (Act)[1], requires that meetings of local government agencies, such as the EUSD, be open to the public. Meetings, as defined in the Act, albeit slippery, includes "any congregation of a majority of the members of a legislative body ... to hear, discuss, or deliberate upon any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body" (54952.2.a). The election of officers would be a matter "within the subject matter jurisdiction" of the EUSD. The Act prohibits any "use of direct communication" or "technological devices" by a majority "***to develop a collective concurrence as to action to be taken*** on an item" by the legislative body (54952.2.b). (Emphasis added) The use of a telephone, email, and facsimile devices used to develop such a collective concurrence fall within the parameters of the Act. Contrary to members' testimonial assertions, the use of the telephone does not have to be by way of simultaneous communication, such as by conference call, to fall within the Act's prohibitions. Finally, "no legislative body shall take action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final" (54952.2.c).

Much significance was voiced by three of the EUSD members that the allegations filed with the Grand Jury were groundless because they were as a result of retaliation by an ex-member of the EUSD[2] or as a result of a "sour grapes" motivation (as one local newspaper editorialized[3]). However, regardless of the motivation for filing the complaint, if a violation of the Act has occurred, such a violation still remains a violation. Improper and illegal behavior is not diminished in its result by the motivation that brought it to the revealing light of day in the first place. Therefore, the Grand Jury attached no significance to the motivation behind the allegation and investigated the allegation on its own merit by investigating the factual content of the events in question.

FINDINGS

1. The present EUSD board, which includes two new members[4] elected in November 1999, has violated the Brown Act on at least one specific occasion[5]. From comments received by the Grand Jury it appears that there is also concern with members' frequent efforts to deliberate on matters outside the published agenda.
2. The present EUSD board has a cavalier attitude that conversations between members prior to board meetings are acceptable as long as the conversations are not simultaneous, and, in any event, "that's the way things are always done". To do otherwise would be, according to one member, "contrary to the way congress and other government agencies do business". Characterizing conversations as "planning and strategy", such as were conducted in the specific instance referred to in '1' above, are deemed by some members as not improper, even though they seek concurrence.
3. There does not appear to be a consistent training policy or efforts to assure board members receive Brown Act initial or refresher training.
4. The EUSD board may be adversely affected by one of the member's extraordinary number of absences in both its public meetings and closed sessions, although his attendance appeared to be improving at the time of our investigation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

00-26 The EUSD institute a formal policy of initial and annual refresher training on the requirements of the Brown Act for its board members. [Findings 1, 2, & 3]

00-27 Coordinate with other local agencies such as County Counsel, District Attorney, or other local agencies that provide Brown Act training allowing EUSD members to participate in that training. The training should be focused on the Brown Act and not merely an aside, which typically is the case with larger conferences focusing on more global statewide issues. [Findings 1, 2, & 3]

00-28 Take personal responsibility to assure that the public's business is conducted in public as required by law. The intent of the Brown Act is that actions taken by public bodies, such as the EUSD, be taken openly and their deliberations be conducted openly[6]. [Findings 1, 2, & 3]

00-29 Board members evaluate their own commitment of time to productively serve their community and the EUSD board by actively participating by their presence on the board. Absences from the community and/or the board meetings may detract from a member's effectiveness to serve, and may deprive the community and/or the board of the full talents and skills of the member[7]. [Finding 4]

RESPONDENTS

Esparto Unified School District: All Findings and Recommendations

Yolo County Counsel: Recommendation 00-27

Yolo County District Attorney: Finding 1 and Recommendation 00-27

---

[1] Government Code Section 54950 et seq. All references to Government Code unless otherwise noted.

[2] We are reminded of a passage in Shakespeare's Hamlet wherein the Queen opines that "The lady doth protect too much, methinks."

[3] The Daily Democrat January 26, 2000, to which at least one board member responded in writing, taking exception with what he considered to be the equivalent of being called "country bumpkins" by the editorial.

[4] "Any person elected to serve ... Who has not yet assumed the duties of office shall conform his or her conduct to the requirements of" the Brown Act (54952.1).

[5] Because the EUSD members expressed doubt that a violation occurred it would be instructive to set out the particulars of this violation. The events that resulted in a violation are as follows: 1. Sometime before the EUSD's annual reorganization meeting (there was some conflict in testimony whether it occurred hours before the meeting or days before) board member 'A' called member 'B' and informed 'B' that he, 'A', intended to nominate 'C' for president and 'B' for clerk. 'A' then asked 'B' if 'B' "could support" the nomination. 'B' responded the he indeed could support 'C' for president. 'A' told 'B' he would call 'C' and inform her of his conversation with 'B'. 2. 'A' next called 'C' and informed her of his intentions informing her of his conversation with 'B'. After some conversation about the how-to of serving as president (as 'C' was newly elected to the board and 'A' is an experienced board member) 'C' agreed to serve as president. 'C' then called 'D' and 'E' to inform them of the intended action at the EUSD upcoming meeting. She did not call 'B'. At the reorganization meeting, 'A' followed through and nominated 'C' and 'B' to their respective officer positions. Predictably, 'C' and 'B' were elected by a majority of the four members present at the meeting. What seems to be lost to the members is that prior to getting to the official meeting three members of the board had already "met" and formed a majority in their "collective concurrence" on the election of officers by 'A's telephone calls to 'B; and 'C'. The "action" at the official board meeting was a mere formality, the real "action" had already been taken when the telephone calls were made by 'A'.

[6] We remind the EUSD board of the Brown Act's legislative intent: "The people of this State do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created."

[7] For example, this member, with the concurrence of other members, agreed that he should not be considered for president because of his absences.

Tours

Yolo County Animal Shelter

The Yolo County Grand Jury toured the county's Animal Shelter on November 2, 1999. The shelter has the capacity to hold 100 dogs and 75 cats. Reptiles and barnyard animals are kept in outside pens. The Animal Shelter employs one manager, one supervisor, nine Animal Control Officers and one Kennel Technician. Inmates of the Walter L. Leinberger Center help to clean and maintain the cages and assist in the construction of others.

The shelter is a section within the Administrative and Special Services Division of the Sheriff's Department. Duties of Animal Control Officers include assisting other law enforcement agencies where animals may be involved; enforcement of pertinent code sections; assisting Fish and Wildlife Officers; assisting postal employees who have been threatened by loose dogs; and filling requests from citizens who complain of stray animals or animal abuse.

Much of the operating costs for the shelter are met by contracts with cities within the county, license fees, humane fees and donations, including pet food given by various stores in the county.

Upon entering the shelter, animals are vaccinated and observed to ensure that the public has a healthy group from which to adopt. Nearly half of all the animals entering the shelter are adopted. The shelter and the SPCA have entered into a reciprocating agreement to foster additional adoptions in approved homes. Unwanted animals, which are disease-free, are euthanized and frozen for study by University of California at Davis Veterinary students.

County residents whose pets are missing and feared stolen or dead should report the facts to the Animal Shelter. If the pet is not found at the shelter, it may have been given to the S.P.C.A.

Recently the Food and Agriculture Department passed State Codes and imposed four new mandates that follow.

1. A 72-hour holding period for feral cats and dogs.
2. Daily mandatory observation and temperament testing (written assessment not formerly done).
3. Increased holding period mandatory on all other stray cats and dogs to six days (formerly 72 hours).
4. Owner surrendered animals must now be held two days before being adopted.

These new codes will necessitate building a new metal structure to house more animals longer, and hiring one additional Animal Care Technician.

RECOMMENDATIONS

00-30 That the shelter work out an understanding with the UC Davis Department of Animal Science and the College of Veterinary Medicine to create internships with the shelter.

RESPONDENTS

Yolo County Sheriff and/or Animal Shelter Administrator

Martins' Achievement Place

Martins' Achievement Place is an intensive residential treatment program for adjudicated adolescent male sex offenders. The Grand Jury toured the school facilities. The school is certified by the State Department of Education to provide special education for learning or emotionally handicapped students in grades 7 through 12. A specialized program is designed to promote positive change in the student's behavior and provide an individualized curriculum. For those students not requiring special education services, home and hospital instruction is provided by the local school district in addition to the structured, educationally focused day program provided by Martins' Achievement Place.

The students are supervised 24 hours a day. There is one staff person to every three wards during the day and one to six during the sleeping hours. The staff receives training updates from various sources. There is a high turnover in staff of about 50% every six months. This is mainly in the aide staff, due to low salary and the fact that they are mainly college students who are moving toward completing their degrees.

Overall, this is a well-run program with measures in place to make certain that both the students and community are kept safe. There is a no-touch, non-contact program to insure the safety of all residents and staff. There is a level system with clear expectations about behavior throughout the school program. It was noted that students who do not succeed here due to behavior problems are returned to the court or the probation department for other placement. This is one of the few programs designed to treat adolescent male sex offenders.

Monroe Detention Center and The Leinberger Center

The Grand Jury toured the Monroe Detention Center and the Leinberger Center in October 1999, as part of its annual oversight inspection of county jails. We found a safe clean facility staffed by well-trained Correctional Officers who take pride in their profession and the job they are performing.

The Monroe Detention Center is the main jail for Yolo County. It is equipped to house virtually any classification of inmates: maximum, medium, protective custody, medical and special housing for male and female inmates. It is designed in "pods" and all controls and instrumentation are fully electronic. A new integrated computer system will be installed to link Monroe's system with other law enforcement systems, which will result in significant savings of time and manpower.

The facility houses 303 inmates; of these, up to 64 can be female inmates. This year, for lack of space only, 16 inmates had to be released early, as compared to 894 last year. The average length of stay in Monroe is 32 days. Medical and dental facilities are available on site. The kitchen provides three hot meals per day, all cooked from "scratch" in a clean, well-managed kitchen.

The staff seems to have good control of their population despite the fact, that deputies are in the pods mixing freely with the inmates. Over the last eleven years only three deputies have been assaulted, two of these assaults were by mentally unstable inmates. Seldom do inmates need to be physically restrained (none in January, four in February and two in March). Pepper spray is used on the average of twice a year.

Education, counseling and training programs are paid for by the Inmates Welfare Fund along with other extras such as TV. The Inmates generate the Inmate Welfare Fund when they purchase candy, sundries or use the telephone. These programs act as positive inducement for good behavior as well as positive rehabilitation.

The Leinberger Center, located adjacent to the Monroe Detention Center, is a minimum-security unit that houses inmates in a dormitory style facility. The inmates housed in this area work on and off the Yolo County Detention Facility grounds. Leinberger also is in charge of the house arrest technology.

(TOURS-continued on next page)

Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District

The Yolo County Grand Jury toured Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District located in Elk Grove, on February 7, 2000.

This district represents Sacramento and Yolo Counties. This also includes the following cities: Davis, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, Sacramento, Winters, Woodland, and West Sacramento. The district covers a total area of 2,013 square miles. The district's annual budget is approximately $4 million, approximately $660 thousand comes from Yolo County. The district's main source of income is from county property taxes.

The District responds to citizen complaints about mosquitoes and other pests (non-human of course). It uses a variety of means to attempt to control mosquitoes: educational, public relations, biological and chemical. The primary chemical for control of adult mosquitoes is Malathion, sprayed from hand held cans, power spraying, and/or air spraying. For larval control primarily genetic altering chemicals are used.

For biological controls they use mosquito fish. In 1998, 2,962 pounds of fish were used, primarily in rice fields, ponds, and marshes. The district is also experimenting with the three-spine stickleback fish. The district equips and staff's active laboratory projects to collect samples, evaluate, and experiment with different chemicals and biological controls methods.

The District undertakes an active educational program at various schools, homeowner groups, service clubs, governmental agencies, and public events.

Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District has over one hundred rolling stock, consisting of pickups, Jeeps, forklifts, tractors, 4x4s, and a variety of handheld instruments. They have a staff of approximately 35 field technicians, in addition to mechanics, scientists, and administrative staff; the entire operation is impressive. Our tax money seems to be well spent here.

Yolo County Alcohol and Drug Services

This department provides services throughout the county with county run programs as well as contractual arrangements with non-profit agencies. Some examples of county run programs are Beamer Street, Drinking Driver Program, and Adult Drug Court.

John H. Jones Community Clinic, a program of CommuniCare, is a non-profit contractor who provides several services for Yolo County residents. Some examples are outpatient treatment with outpatient medical detoxification, day treatment for pregnant and parenting women including young children, Youth for Recovery, an after school substance abuse treatment for high school age youth, an Adolescent day treatment program, and a day treatment program in transitional living facility for women and children.

This department has been merged from two to create a structure that is cost effective and able to provide seamless delivery to customers. It appears to be moving toward that goal by utilizing quality improvement principals.

Yolo County Coroner's Office and Morgue

On November 2, 1999, the Grand Jury visited the two-year-old Yolo County Coroners Office and Morgue. The purpose of this office is to investigate the "cause and manner of death". Deaths investigated can include; sudden, violent, unusual, on the job, accidental and those deaths that occur while a person is in protective custody. The office handles about 600 cases per year, of these perhaps 100 are violent deaths, 15-20 homicides, 200-300 natural deaths, 75 motor vehicle accidents and a disproportionate number of suicides relative to other counties.

To do this job, there are three full-time staff members, one part-time staff member and up to three interns who work two eight-hour days per week. A case may take only a minimum of four hours time to investigate. For a more serious crime the cause of death may take weeks to investigate. It is the job of the Sheriff Coroner's Office to positively identify the body, and mostly this is done through fingerprints.

We found that the staff seems enthusiastic and dedicated to their job. In a time of tightening budgets, the staff is increasingly handling more of their tasks in-house rather than contracting them out. All staff personnel are trained in positive fingerprinting. In-house whole body and teeth x-rays are being performed and a photo lab is being set up for developing the x-rays. Blood is first tested for a positive or negative reaction for drugs to minimize sending out all samples for expensive forensic tests.

It was reported to us that the Coroner's Office has very low turnover within its workforce. This may be explained by the interesting nature of the work and the extra training given to the personnel. The Sheriff provides great support and allows time off from work (XTO), without pay, when the stress load becomes unmanageable.

Addendum

The Grand Jury wishes it to be noted that during the course of year various administrators from each of the county's departments were invited to address the Grand Jury concerning the nature and functions of their respective departments. We appreciate those administrators taking their valuable time to open the communication channels which are so vital as our county progresses into the new millenium.

Members of the Grand Jury also toured Folsom Prison on April 17, 2000. We would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to the administration and correctional officers of this facility for the service they provide to the people of our country.